SURVEY

MIDMONTHLY

MARCH 1946

THESE MEN SURVIVED
Florence Walters Hagee

A CITY IN THE SAND
Marion F. Wilson

BRAKES ON DIVORCE
Marie Munk

PUBLISHED BY
SURVEY ASSOCIATES

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SURVEY MIDMONTHLY

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VOL. LXXXII NO. 3 JOURNAL OF SOCIAL WORK MARCH 1946

Seldom is it given any of us to see the true quality of the human spirit. So surrounded are we by a fog of preoccupation with routine that our eyes are almost incurably dimmed to the essence of man's immortal attributes. With rare perception, compounded of her own spirit and the scientific skills of psychiatry and social work, Florence Hagee lifts that fog for us this month, and through the experiences of that handful of men who came through the horrors of Japanese prison camps, makes us see that the true quality of mankind is man himself. "These men survived." It is for us to comprehend their story. (See page 67).

AMICABLE RARITY

In these days of hectic conflict any bill jointly introduced by Senators Pepper, George, LaFollette, and Taft shines out like a gem of noncontroversial amity. So there may be hope that the very successful wartime federal social protection program will find a permanent home. Twin bills, S. 1779 and H. R. 5234 (introduced by Representative Bolton), would set up a $700,000 peacetime program in the office of the Federal Security Agency. Present division, in the old office of Community War Services, is budgeted to June 30, 1946. (See page 83)

PIONEERING

By no means dead is the pioneering spirit in one of social work's allied professions. Six national nursing associations are embarking on a study looking towards closer coordination and combination. They are the American Nurses Association, National Organization of Public Health Nurses, American Association of Industrial Nurses, National Association of Colored Graduate Nurses, National League of Nursing Education, Association of Collegiate Schools of Nursing. In the background of the present move are two decades of successful efforts to consolidate local public health nursing services in one or two strong agencies which operate on a "generalized" rather than a "specialized" basis. Hope is that preliminary reports and recommendations can be discussed at the September biennial convention of these associations.

REVISE SOCIAL SECURITY

In the past five years, 294 bills to revise the Social Security Act have been introduced in Congress. Nothing has come of them. Most were blocked by the powerful House Ways and Means Committee. Now a technical staff, appointed by that committee and with $50,000 at its disposal, has produced a report with recommendations under the title "Issues in Social Security." Readers of *Survey Midmonthly* who have not already done so, should read John J. Corson's able analysis of its proposals in the March *Survey Graphic*. (See page 84).

CITIZENSHIP VIA FIGHTING FRONTS

The men and women in the U. S. armed forces who became naturalized American citizens in the years 1943-45 numbered 109,382. Of these, 95,795 received their papers while in the U. S.; 13,587 while overseas. Largest group—33,000—were from the countries which make up the British Empire. Next largest group—9,000—were from Germany and Austria.

PROGRESS REPORTS

The Rockefeller Foundation has granted the National Health Council $78,500 for 1946 to carry out its reorganized program. (See *Survey Midmonthly*, October 1945).

Final draft of the proposed bill to establish a federal department of education, health, and welfare would set up four main offices within the department—education, public health, social insurance, and public welfare. The present Federal Security Agency would be abolished, and the President authorized to investigate other executive agencies in these and related fields. Where he finds that "coordination and consolidation" would "increase their efficiency," he could transfer their functions to the new department by Executive Order. (See "A Cabinet Post for the Home Front," by Leonard W. Mayo, *Survey Midmonthly*, August 1945.)

CLOSE UP

Another inside glimpse of UNRRA on the job (see "Helping Nations Help Themselves," by Charles H. Alspach, *Survey Midmonthly*, December 1945) comes this month from Marion F. Wilson. When she wrote "City in the Sand," Miss Wilson was welfare officer at El Shatt, camp for refugees on the desert near Cairo. Now she is welfare officer for the Cairo area.

Read Miss Wilson's account of distributing 8,000 articles of U. S.-contributed clothing to Yugoslavs preparing for the journey back to their homeland. You'll probably take another look into that old trunk and examine the top shelf of the clothes closet more closely.

NEW LINGO

Critics of social work lingo who have assailed the gabbledegook of the interoffice memo, and raised eyebrows at the phrases borrowed from law, medicine, and psychiatry, may just as well relax and give up now that the cryptic language of war is also finding a place for itself in the social work sanctum. Critic or no, you will have to turn to page 78 to find out what "meat at six o'clock" means to the blind GI who is being reeducated through the government program described by F. Fraser Bond.

Author and educator, Mr. Bond is cur-

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rently teaching journalism at New York University. He has written frequently on subjects relating to blindness, an interest developed some ten years ago when cataracts temporarily impaired his own vision. Since then, he has been actively associated with the work of the American Foundation for the Blind, in New York.

INDOCTRINATION

Seems as if someone ought to make something of former New York Health Commissioner Stebbins' announcement that each newborn infant will continue to receive, via his mother, not only his birth certificate but also an application for his sugar ration book.

DESERVED TRIBUTE

Members of Survey Associates, Inc., will understand and applaud a recent tribute which came to Agnes Brown Leach, long a loyal member of our board of directors. The Graduate Faculty of the New School for Social Research, in recognition of her twenty-five years of distinguished service on their board, designated as "Agnes Brown Leach Fellowships," four tuition fellowships for Scandinavian students made available through the American Scandinavian Foundation.

SAFER FOR BABIES

U. S. Children's Bureau reports a 1933-43 decade of progress in reducing infant and maternal mortality as follows: births increased from 16.6 per 1,000 of the population to 21.5; proportion of births in hospitals increased from 35 percent to 72 percent; maternal mortality decreased from 61.9 deaths per 1,000 live births to 24.5; infant deaths decreased from 58.1 per 1,000 live births to 40.4.

GROUP TREATMENT

Happy indeed is the day when a psychiatrist comes down to our own terminological level. Thanks, therefore, to Dr. J. W. Klapman for explaining that "emotional catharsis" means nothing more than the good old custom of "getting it off your chest." Seems that many people find it easier to do that in a group than in person to person conversation.

ANTI-CATEGORICAL

Majority of state administrators at the annual American Public Welfare Association Conference went on record against the "categorical" system of assistance administration. In their opinion, relief standards could be upheld just as well without class distinctions.

HORRIFYING

Divorce conditions in New York State were recently described as "horrifying" by State Supreme Court Justice Michael F. Walsh, speaking to the National Catholic Conference on Family Life. They aren't any better in most other states of the Union, reports Marie Munk in this issue of *Survey Midmonthly*. (See page 75) Rising concern over the increase in this index of family breakdown makes timely her analysis of social work's responsibility for prevention.

CITIZEN BOARDS

Citizen boards, as a device in government health and welfare administration, are here to stay, reports the Public Charities Association of Pennsylvania. A five-state study showed 84 such boards in New York, 44 in New Jersey, 63 in Maryland, 26 in Delaware, 147 in Pennsylvania. In Pennsylvania, 67 of the total were county boards, part of the centralized state public assistance administration.

CHATTER

Unnoticed recent real estate transaction was sale by Community Service Society of New York, Inc., (the world's largest family service agency) of the property occupied by the Stork Club. • • Leonard Mayo, dean of the School of Applied Social Sciences of Western Reserve University, last month was awarded the annual Parents' Magazine Medal for Outstanding Service to Children. • • Still under care by the U. S. Committee for the Care of European Children are youngsters of fifteen nationalities in 114 communities in twenty-seven states. Most of the British children have gone back, but few of those from other countries can yet be returned. • • To date, 7,000 workers have been enrolled in the National Health and Welfare Retirement Plan. • • Increasing application for all types of public assistance is reported by the Minnesota State Division of Public Welfare. • • Survey readers, long familiar with the writings of Professor J. Douglas Brown, national authority on social insurance, will be interested to know that he has recently returned to Princeton as dean of the faculty. • • In all probability, 1946 will see a hiatus in state welfare legislation. Next regular session in forty-three states won't come until 1947.

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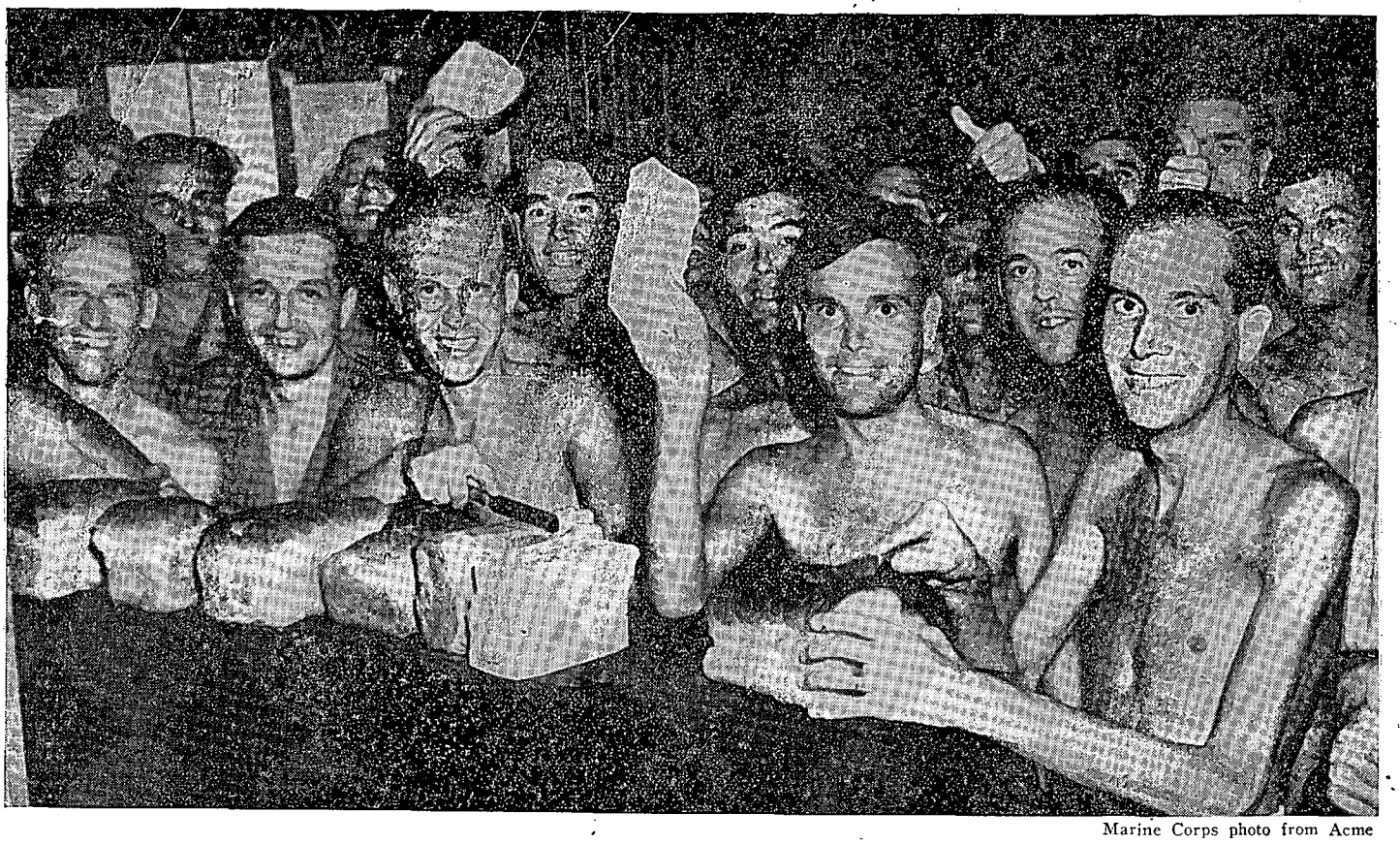

Marine Corps photo from Acme

Liberated prisoners on Formosa receive emergency rations—"the first good food in almost four years"

These Men Survived

FLORENCE WALTERS HAGEE tells of the profound human experiences of our men who have returned from Japanese prison camps.

I. LIBERATION IS NOT EASY

THE DAY AFTER their ship put into port in San Francisco, a group of soldiers, liberated only three short weeks before from Japanese prison camps, quietly gathered around a Red Cross worker. She was the first woman they had talked to for four years. They were shy. Their anxiety made them watch everything they said. But they stayed to talk—taking turns—as long as she could be with them.

Here at Crissy Annex Letterman General Hospital, an army hospital in a village of converted barracks, hugging the Bay shore close to the foot of the Golden Gate Bridge, these men were getting their first breath of free America. The Red Cross worker was a member of the hospital's staff of psychiatric and social workers.

One of the servicemen said, "When we sailed under the Golden Gate Bridge yesterday, and saw boats out just to meet *us*, and there was a band playing and Americans, and girls, down there waving to us—I just can't explain how it felt. I couldn't stand it, I had to walk to the other side of the deck."

Another man nodded, "I did the same thing to keep from crying. We're just not used to feeling things."

As one of them told of watching a father on the dock locate his son on the ship, his voice tightened and he lit a cigarette.

A sergeant, older than the others, said he hadn't yet learned to take kindness or warmth. In Manila, on the way home, he had been standing in line at a canteen. A woman came up and touched his arm, and asked if he would like to have a cup of coffee. He began to weep, just at that touch and the sound of her voice.

Another soldier grinned and said he walked out of that canteen three times before he could go in and take a cup of coffee. Just to see an American woman had been so good he could hardly take it.

All with whom the staff talked told us how wonderful it was to be in America, and yet how unreal, and how shy and ill at ease they felt. "I can't believe I'm here; it's just like a dream; I feel sort of dazed." "Though we've waited for this for four years, it's all come too fast!"

For these repatriated men the past was more real than the present. Still geared in habit and feeling to life in prison camp, they were straining to shift gears. They did not intend to talk about what they had been through. They wanted to forget it. But they were not yet ready to forget it. They feared we would shut our minds and hearts to their experiences, or that they would hurt us too much by what they told. But they wanted people to know how things had been. They had learned deeply. They wanted to tell how they had lived and felt, and they wanted to be understood.

These men felt "different," not part of this busy American life that had so changed while they were away. They felt "rice brained," "dobie," because they had put from their thoughts so many things as unneeded or disturbing. They were afraid they would not be able to catch up. They felt separated from "home folks" by an experience they feared

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we would not be able to believe or understand.

A man had been telling about two years spent in a Japanese hospital. He called a passing soldier to join him, saying: "Tell this lady how long I was in the hospital so she won't think I'm snowing her under." He didn't think she or anyone could believe what it had been like. He scarcely believed it himself. That is one reason why he and the other men felt so cut off from the American scene.

Focus was gone. For four years each man had concentrated on one goal—survival. And that goal no longer channeled his total thought and energy. The powerful drive that had gone into survival was now directionless, scattered. Sergeant Johnson* felt this and was puzzled. "I had confidence when I was in prison; I never doubted for a minute that I'd make it. Now I don't understand it, I haven't any confidence. I'd like to have ambition, but I just don't have any. I'd like to work hard, but I don't know what at." Actually, when he talked it out, as he needed and wanted to do, he found he was pretty clear about the things he wanted. What had upset this man's thinking was the uncertainty of the choices ahead, and the responsibility for making his own decisions. He had grown unaccustomed to freedom of choice.

Anxiety and Joy

Returning home was not easy. To these men, it was as though they were being born again, and birth is full of pain as well as release and promise. Each of them in some measure felt anxiety mixed with the joy. One soldier expressed it like this:

"I feel uncertain, about 50 percent unsure of myself. Not with people, but about what I can do, what I want to do. Times have passed me up. There have been changes in everything—in the way of doing business, for instance—and I feel I have to know all the differences and I don't know any of them. I've been away from people, haven't read or studied anything for so long. Things are bigger. Nineteen forty-five seems ten years ahead of 1941. I feel as though I were alone on a lake heavy with fog. Sometimes I see a light on the shore and try to reach it, but the fog always swirls and hides the light from view. Or it's like a tennis game. You know you're up against someone who has practiced, and you're afraid of what his strength is. I can't explain it. I've never felt uncertain about things before."

Fears

It is not the liberated prisoner alone who feels like a stranger when he comes back, out of touch, apprehensive about what lies ahead. The other patients who come from overseas service say the same things. They, too, need to tell what they have gone through, to talk about the uncertainties ahead. They, too, feel out of place with civilians and in civilian life. They, too, fear being unneeded, unwanted, incapable. Every returning soldier begins to feel more secure and at home as soon as he finds welcome and understanding.

At Crissy we could have used three times as many workers as we had. The men were shyly eager to talk. In their own time they told us how things had been. Prison life had taught them caution and a sharpened observation. We felt them groping to determine how much we could take. And when they found they could talk and be understood, they poured it out. This helped them clarify and understand their experiences, and it helped bridge the gap that separated them from home.

Barriers Come Down

Sergeant Benner let out his story in a flood. He talked for two hours, with scarcely any question or comment from the worker. He said it made him feel like a human being to talk to her. When the worker left, he said: "Thank you for all you've done. I can't tell you what it has meant to me."

Often men said this. Another man, one of a group who had been discussing how difficult it would be to talk to families and friends, began by saying, "If you told people the truth, they couldn't believe it, they'd think you were a 'psycho.'"

As this group tested the Red Cross worker's receptivity, Sergeant Benner gained confidence, and finally said: "I wish somebody would get hold of me and ask me questions and let me tell the whole thing through from beginning to end. I'd like to get it out, without holding anything back!" His train was leaving within the hour for the next hospital, so he could not accept the worker's quick offer to be that audience. But he agreed with enthusiasm when she asked whether she should write to the Red Cross, so they would be looking for him when he arrived.

The first contact with their families was not a simple, joyful thing for these men who had been isolated in prison for nearly four years. For four years their constant need had been food. After six months of starvation they had stopped talking or thinking about women or sex. The men were worried about this. Would they be impotent when they got home? Their emotions were rusty, they had learned to be callous as a self-protection. Men in prison got sick if they worried about their families too much; and prison had been the life of these patients just a few weeks ago. Now, at the other end of a train trip, at most a few weeks away, there were families, wives, girls who had been waiting for them. Many of the men weren't ready. Their feelings were still blocked, numb. Or their toughness was beginning to crack in spots, allowing unexpected things, like tears, to happen.

Sergeant Frank put off telephoning for

* All names are fictitious.

Behind This Story—

When "These Men Survived" came to us, we saw that we had a unique contribution which combined the diagnostic skills of social casework and psychiatry, the systematic methods of research, with vivid interpretation. The study of the men at Crissy was no casual undertaking. Chief credit for its careful planning and direction goes to seven social caseworkers: Gloria Rich Hendricks, Red Cross field director at Letterman General Hospital; Maxine Grace Muchnic, assistant field director; Ruth Johnson, case supervisor; Florence Walters Hagee, case supervisor; Alice E. Johnston, psychiatric social worker; Esther Woolf, psychiatric social worker; Bertha Hughes-Hartogs, generic social worker. Continuous consultation was given by Lieutenant Colonel Robert J. Needles and Major Earl Saxe, in charge of the hospital's psychiatric team, and over-all approval of the report by Brigadier General Charles C. Hillman, the hospital's commanding officer.

The backlog of the material came from the notes and case records secured by the Red Cross caseworkers in routine interviews with returned prisoners of war. In addition, planned interviews, following a carefully prepared schedule, were held with thirty selected men, in order to check and supplement findings of the more general data. These were conducted by eight psychiatric social workers and three hospital social workers.

The caseworkers primarily responsible for the project are graduates of schools of social work. Four of them had earlier experience in psychiatric clinics or child guidance services; two had had previous experience with research projects.

The author, Florence Walters Hagee, is a graduate of the New York School of Social Work, to which she went on a Commonwealth Fund Scholarship, after a first year of professional training at the University of California. Her regular job is with the child guidance services of the San Francisco school department. To an earlier history in the professional theater and as a teacher of dramatics in San Francisco, can go credit, perhaps, for her ability to interpret scientific findings with the drama of human experience and emotion.

—THE EDITORS

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several days. When he did, he learned that his twin brother had been killed. Sergeant Frank had lived through particularly bad experiences, and his anxiety was almost unbearable. Without this brother, who had been closer to him than anyone, what did we have to go home to? He felt guilty. By a devious tracing of events he almost proved himself responsible for his brother's death, finally felt it should have been he, instead, who had died. But his girl was still waiting. She was wonderful—intelligent, interesting, beautiful. But why had she waited for him? She was crazy. He was old, half sick, maybe he wouldn't be any good to her after all. He hadn't telephoned her yet. Maybe he wouldn't. Maybe he'd wait until he got to the next hospital, got some new teeth, and could walk without his cane.

Not Ready to Forget

He didn't think he could talk to her anyway. She wouldn't know what it was all about. What it was like to lie in a ship's hold packed so that people suffocated; to lie there splattered with blood and flesh of neighbors the bomb fragments had hit; to watch men go mad and feel on the edge of it yourself. And then the things men will do, live like animals, every man for himself. He'd seen one ruthless man, now returned, who had been responsible for the deaths of at least two dozen men on this trip. He took their share of food and water. After the first time, it was easy; they were too weak to protest. This kind of thing made you almost ashamed to be human.

The worst thing that had happened to some men was their loss of faith in people and in themselves. He hadn't quite lost that faith, he'd had friends he could count on. But he knew more than he ever had about people, more than his girl at home could believe. There was a nurse in Manila he could talk to, because she had been through a lot herself. Was it hard for Sergeant Frank to talk to the Red Cross worker? No, but the worker had heard so much, she, too, could understand. Could he help his girl understand? Well, maybe he could. The next day he telephoned his girl, talked to her for half an hour. After that, the Sergeant was different. He felt welcomed and wanted and hopeful. He was on the bridge between the fading prison camp and a future which was coming into focus.

We often saw an amazing difference in the men who after long anxiety finally got in touch with their families and learned that all was well.

We saw the other thing, too—saw men harden their shells when they received bad news. One man came in and said, "Well, I'm one of those cases!" His wife had believed him dead and had remarried. He didn't blame her. And he wasn't going to let this throw him; he'd been through too much. This settled it. He was going to reenlist.

As weeks passed and new shiploads of patients came in, the group picture at Crissy changed. The first patients, those who arrived about three weeks after liberation, were quiet and slow moving, and their faces looked like masks. They stayed in their wards. When the Red Cross offered them long distance telephone calls, they refused or chose to reach their families by the more impersonal telegram.

Men arriving later were freer, physically and emotionally. They were browner and they had gained an average of a pound a day. They got in touch with families more quickly. More of them went into town, went on that drunk they'd promised themselves. Several got married. They felt better oriented than those who had arrived earlier.

We found the liberated prisoners, on the whole, in amazingly good condition, considering what they had been through. All of us who worked with them—doctors, nurses, Red Cross staff—shared this opinion.

The medical staff judged that most of the men would be returned to health by the end of the year. The condition of their teeth, considered to be dependent on diet, was not bad. There were a few cases of permanent heart or eye impairment from beriberi. Tuberculosis, contrary to expectations, was rare. Intestinal parasites, however, were common. "Malnutrition" was the universal diagnosis, even for those few men who had not lost weight during imprisonment. Some had regained as much as ninety pounds, but quickly gained weight is not distributed normally. Abdomens and jowls are heavy, while shoulders, arms, and legs remain thin. But normal living and any needed medical attention would put most of these men in good physical condition in a few months.

Emotionally, too, they were in better shape than we had expected. The psychiatrists found only a handful of psychotics, only a few men with severe anxiety states, and a very few with conversion symptoms. Some drank to excess and handled their anxieties about home by repeatedly missing the boat or train. But these were the exceptions. On the whole, we were impressed with the quality of these men—by their directness, discernment, and the strength of their spirits.

II. WHY SOME SURVIVED

Three fourths of those taken prisoner were killed or died before release. How did the one fourth stave off death? What enabled them to survive?

We talked with the men at Crissy about this, about their prison experience, and how they had endured it. Trying to understand their survival against such odds puzzled them, but they felt sure of a few things.

Not a man doubted that his own attitude, the way he felt about life, had helped him through his years of imprisonment. The first explanations offered were always: "I never gave up hope." "It was never in my mind that I would die." "I had faith." "I didn't worry." "You had to have a sense of humor and be able to laugh."

Faith

Faith upheld these men. They told us of their trust in something and of how it had sustained them. One man said: "I used to think you can push a man just so far and no farther before he'll break, but I don't think that any more. A man can live on will power alone. We had no food, no clothes, no fuel. What else kept us alive?" Another said: "Everything in prison puts the lie to things you believed. It's mind over matter! Ninety percent should have died with the kind of malaria we had. It's a cold, that's all. It's what you make it. So is starvation. Believe you aren't starving—you live. Believe you'll come through — horrible wounds heal." Another said simply, offering final explanation for his survival: "God was our only refuge. We were helpless." One trusted himself, another God, another his country, but each had a faith that made him feel secure.

Patriotism

Radiant patriotism, a deep belief in our country, helped bring many men home. We at Crissy felt in all the liberated prisoners a kind of patriotism we had not known before. It had grown in them as they learned the meaning of an existence of abject poverty and submission under a militarist regime. They came to hold dear the comfort and the spirit of the democratic way of life. In the end, they depended on the strength and resourcefulness of the United States. Their country became a father on whose protection they could count—if only they could hold out.

In one camp the prisoners wrote an adaptation of the Lord's Prayer. It began "Our President, who art in Washington," and ended, "Thy navy come; thy will be done, in Japan, as it is in the United States." This was not sacrilege. Men told us: "You can't imagine how much the American flag can mean. You

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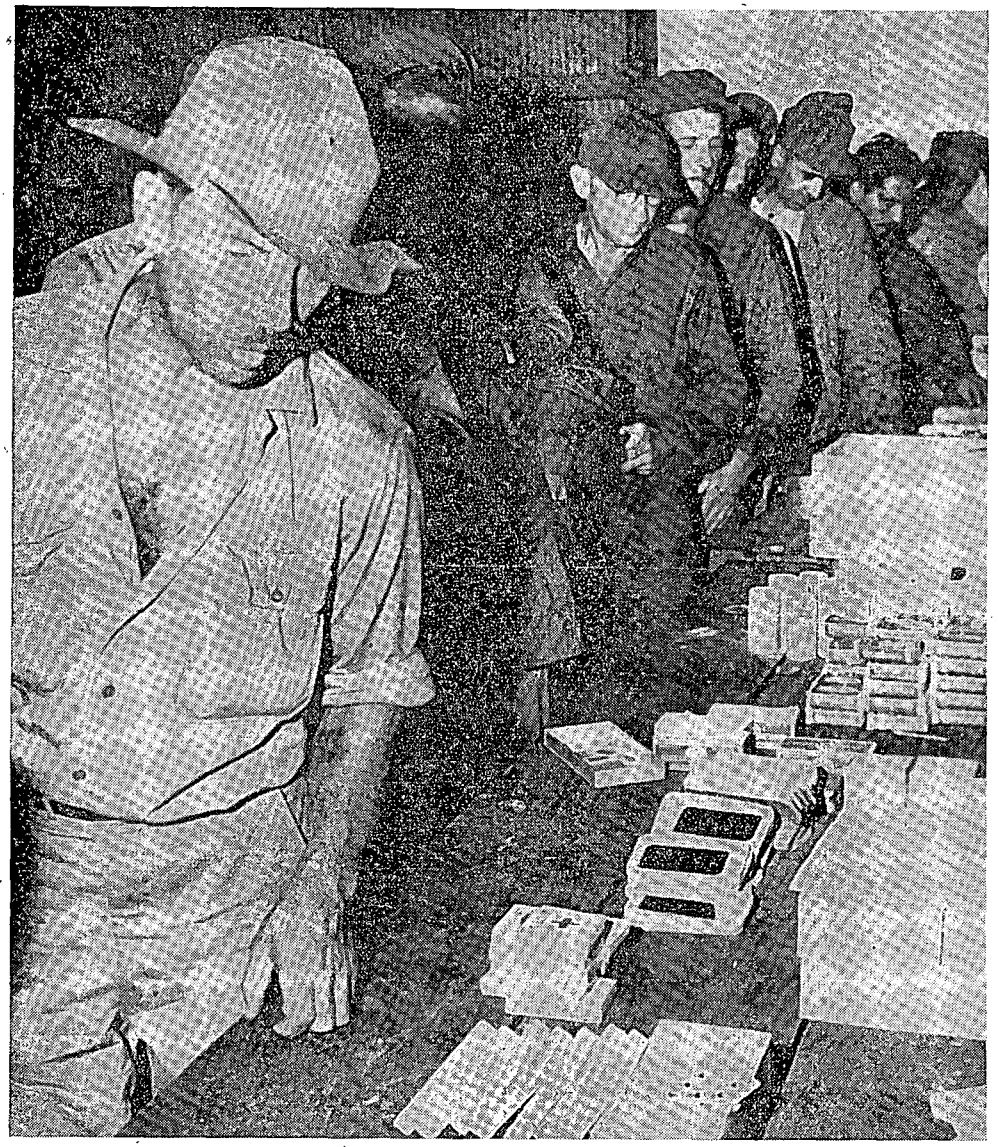

U. S. Navy photo from Acme

Free men again, they line up for supplies before boarding ship at Yokohoma

don't appreciate America when you're in your own country." One soldier, grasping for words to express his feeling, looked around him and said, "Why, you can see God shining all over, here!"

Family, Religion, Friends

Religion meant more to some men than it did to others, and it meant more to some than it ever had before. They told us, "There wasn't a man who didn't pray at times," and "I guess everybody had a little religion." For many, religious faith was creedless, a feeling "there was Someone higher up pulling for you."

Having a family to come back to made many want to stick it out. One man first called it "will power" that had brought him through; then he termed it "spirit." Finally he said, "Maybe I had will power because I still had the front door key, and I wanted to use it." Another told of getting his wife's picture in the hospital and how only then did he begin to get well.

Friends were important. The man without a friend, the man no one could trust, rarely made it. When he got sick there was no one to watch out for him. Even the ruthless man who was responsible for the deaths of many, had devoted followers whom he protected. Usually it was the "buddy system," just two men, maybe three, working together. Your friends helped you when things got tough, and you shared with them. Maybe you couldn't trust anybody else, but you could trust your buddies.

Sometimes faith and confidence were so narrowed down that a man trusted only his own cunning and resourcefulness. Then it was "every man for himself." At Crissy, we heard it said: "It was bad to watch men trade their rice for a week ahead for cigarettes, and then get too weak to eat, and die. But in another way it was a good thing, because it meant more food for others, and that helped them live." And again: "You'd do anything for food. You can't imagine how it is. It's like a veil slipped off of you. You are naked. It makes you understand how people feel and act, stripped that way, when you've known it yourself." We heard stories of generous and responsible behavior from the same man who told us, "Don't you believe human nature is beautiful; it was every man for himself."

Leadership

Not all the men in prison lost sight of everything but continuing their own existence. There was moral leadership in spirit and in action, and this moral leadership helped keep alive men's faith and self respect as human beings. Few camps had chaplains. Officers carried responsibility according to their character, not their rank. Often doctors were centers of strength. When they had no medicine, they pulled men through illness by friendliness and interest, by convincing them that life was worth living. "You got to knew the good men, and they came from all ranks and all walks of life."

Welch, a "trouble maker" who had been sent with 200 other men like him to a specially "tough camp," told of their leader. "We didn't have an officer with us, the place was so bad, but we had a man among us who was the person we turned to. He understood more than the average. He wanted to bring us through. He was not the oldest and he wasn't the highest in rank; but we all came to know that he wanted what was best for all of us. He'd go to the Japs and demand things for us and be beaten. He'd come back and rest and go back and be beaten again. He never gave up, and the Japs came to respect him as we did."

An officer in one camp got the men to outlaw the collection of food debts for cigarettes. The smokers in this camp, protected from their recklessness and others' hunger, survived. One sergeant told how he and his friends organized a foraging unit in a Philippine camp to steal food for the hospital. Laughing at himself, one man said his friends had called him "Grandma" because he was always trying to take care of them. At home he had taken care of a younger brother after the death of his parents when he was twelve years old. An old army sergeant who had safely brought home a "problem child" who stole from everyone including the sergeant, said: "I think I couldn't have come through if I hadn't been able to help some other people."

Anger

Anger kept some men going. Japanese military discipline was severe, insulting and often brutal. In self-protection, the prisoners learned to control or subvert their anger, but it stayed alive in them. Sometimes it broke into open defiance at the risk of severe punishment. Token flare-ups sustained morale. Welch said "It seems the harder they made it, th

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better we liked it. When things got tough, we felt 'devil-may-care.' They couldn't keep us down, even when they executed three of us." Another man, a college graduate interested in psychology, said: "Hate is the greatest impelling force. It's fanaticism. The physical factor, adrenalin, heightens your reactions. You hate so much you won't die. I have seen men rotting away with burns, curse and rise up and live."

Anger, converted, became a sustaining group spirit. "Our morale was 100 percent all the time," men told us. "They couldn't get us down. They'd hit us and knock us down, and we'd get up laughing." And again: "We were three jumps ahead of them all the time. They couldn't understand us. Tricking the Japs got to be a game. They seemed like a bunch of kids. You got a kick out of what they said and did. Their interrogations were so stupid. We knew we were superior, and so did they." In one of the camps the guards finally got suspicous about what the prisoners muttered as they bowed their morning greeting. For weeks they had been saying solemnly, "Go to Hell!"

Sabotage and Sympathy

The Americans stole things from the Japanese, sometimes blatantly—hid things in such obvious places that no one thought to search them. And they were clever at sabotage. We heard of a concrete floor laid by prison labor that is a veritable mosaic of "lost tools."

The Japanese militarists were often more severe and brutal in the routine treatment of their own soldiers than of the prisoners. Japanese civilians had even less food, at times, than our men. Hospitals for Japanese were not clean, and had little medicine. Knowing these things helped the prisoners by turning their anger at deprivation and mistreatment into a feeling of superiority. Impersonal, routine insults were not humiliating. The prisoners despised and sometimes even pitied their captors. It was not uncommon to hear a liberated prisoner say he would like to go back to Japan and help the Japanese people. One man told of flying over Tokyo on his way home. "It made me sick to see the ruins and know what it will be like for the civilians this winter. How will they keep the children from starving?"

The few "good Japs" were a great help. Some of the camp interpreters and officers who had been raised in America were friendly in a guarded way, and made conditions better for the Americans. Some civilians, especially the older ones who grew up before the militarist regime, were friendly and helpful. An old man who reminded a prisoner of his father, took a fancy to the young soldier and brought him food and cigarettes from home to the factory where they both worked. One soldier told us he hated the Japanese and would like to see the race wiped off the map with atomic bombs; yet even he told how a Japanese foreman had saved his life when he was too sick to work.

Luck

A few men said survival was purely a matter of luck, and they all recognized that luck played a prominent role in determining who would survive. If you were lucky, you missed the ship that got sunk, the bomb or the cave-in that killed fifty men. You got the Red Cross package in time to save your life; you were put on kitchen duty for six months and got extra food; or you were in a "show camp" for a time. You were lucky if you were sent to Manchuria where you ate soy beans instead of rice, and where the Koreans and Chinese befriended you. Some jobs were healthier than others, gave you sun and air, or an opportunity to steal rice or beans or sugar.

Other things helped, too. Rumors and news were as important as food; they kept up morale. Ignorance held down worry, ignorance of how sick you really were, what a skeleton you had become. You remembered yourself the way you last looked in a mirror. Ignorance of how long the war was to last. You always figured liberation would come in another six months, and you could last that long.

Many of the men we talked with thought their earlier life had prepared them to withstand the hardships of imprisonment. Families had been strict, "but not too strict," and had taught their sons to be independent, or to be industrious. A background of being on your own prepared you to take care of yourself. Or clean healthy home life and good breeding seemed sources of strength. Army discipline had seasoned them to stand what civilians could not take.

One thing we learned as we talked with each man was that his first words didn't always set forth clearly what he meant. "Luck" for instance, sometimes meant almost instinctive self preservation, managing to get near the door where there was enough air to keep from suffocating, or finagling a "cushy" job. Sometimes it meant adjustability. One man called it "luck" that rice agreed with him from the beginning, while it made others sick—they couldn't stand the thought of it. "A good digestion" proved to be more a matter of the spirit than of the flesh, a willingness to stomach unfamiliar foods like grass or snakes. When they said, "The happy-go-lucky drunks made it," they meant that these youngsters had broken away from their families' control and had developed enough self reliance and toughness to stand imprisonment.

The Prime Factor

As we talked with these men at Crissy, looked at the combination of reasons each gave for his survival, we found ourselves veering toward their own strong conviction that emotional attitude had been a

Letterman General Hospital Photographic Laboratory

Plenty of free milk and orange juice at any hour, a dream come true for ex-prisoners of war, was provided at Crissy on orders of the commanding general

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Percival for the American Red Cross

The author talks with a sergeant who spent forty months in Japanese prison camps

prime factor in keeping men alive. It seemed to us that some men felt the "will to live." In others, even in those who spoke of their "will power," we found something more passive, more accepting. They showed not a directed determination but a permeating sureness that things would go well with them. They felt life was worth living; they wanted to live; and they had faith. They felt that their life's balance was stacked on the right side.

In our pursuit of reasons for survival, we did not lose sight of the importance of good fortune. We cannot tell how many men among those who died had the "will to live" and a faith equal to that of those who survived, until the fortunes of war cut them off.

The men at Crissy did tell us many reasons why men had not come through. Incalculable chance had determined the deaths of countless prisoners. When luck was against them, and their number came up, they died—no matter what kind of men they were. Men told us quietly and with a suggestion of guilt at their own survival, of friends who despite indomitable courage were finally downed by accident or disease or starvation. A few men told us wryly, "The good men died, the ones who gave away their food and medicine."

More frequently men told of deaths that had been easier for them to accept. Age was important. Those over forty-five or under twenty-five had a hard time of it. The youngsters—they were called "chickens" by the prisoners—who weren't fully weaned from their families, got homesick and died unless some older man took care of them and made life easier and more worth living. "Mama's boy," and men who had lived soft lives, couldn't take it. The smokers who traded their rice for cigarettes day after day, starved and died. Some men worried themselves to death, worried about health, liberation, the people at home. And many men just seemed to lose hope, give up, and die. They would say, "I won't be here tomorrow," and they wouldn't be.

Life Ahead

We know too little of those who died. Here at Crissy we learned what we could of the survivors. Our final impression of them was that their good fortune and their spirit helped them, against tremendous odds, to hold onto life. We were deeply impressed by their stamina and resilience. But it seemed not so much the degree of a man's maturity as how he focused and used what he had. Many of the survivors are not "emotionally mature," as psychiatry interprets that term. Some of them are "withdrawn," some are "dependent." But these men turned their faces toward life. They faced and accepted bitter reality, using their weaknesses as well as their strengths, to combat the odds against them. On the whole they had had opportunity to know the feel of being loved and disciplined and cared for. They had found their own values. And they had acquired a measure of self-confidence. Somehow they had been able to take hold of the good things, however meager, that life had offered them.

Will these qualities now uphold them in facing the adjustments which so many of them fear? How has their prison experience changed these men? Most felt themselves unchanged, but they said that they had learned a great deal of inestimable value, however dear the price. All felt their sense of values changed; the simple things of life mean more than once they meant. "Getting somewhere," "making money," "keeping up with the Jones"—these have lost their driving power.

Some men were ready to say, vigorously; "No, prison didn't change us. It showed us to ourselves and to each other; we found out what we were made of; it revealed us." Some who were less articulate, came to the same conclusion as they talked. Basically, the most valuable thing they gained was the experience of getting down to rock bottom, of knowing and accepting their essential selves, of shedding the veneer and the false fronts. Only what was real survived in prison camps. This is the gain they treasure. They won it through unbelievable hardship and deprivation.

In the months ahead, they want to revive the ability to feel, to laugh at things they used to think funny, to enjoy the companionship of girls. But they want to hold their values, their self control, their enjoyment of simple things. Some, no doubt, are strong enough to set their own pace and keep it.

But many impressed us with their sensitiveness and their vulnerability. What will happen to them if they find their faith in their country, in its democracy, fairness and plenty, unjustified? What will happen if they find their families have not been able to stand the test of separation or cannot accept the changes experience has wrought in them? What will happen if they find that the U.S.A. does not measure up to their standard of being "real" without pretense or defense, an ideal expressed in these lines, written by an officer in prison, which say what every returning man tried to tell us:

"When that sweet time has come,
When war is ended and prison life is done,
This lesson from these months I shall have learned;
In my heart it's deep and truly burned:
The simple things of life are best.

A cozy home, good food, a place to rest,
A wife to share my life, my joy,
A child to please with doll or toy,
Some friends on whom at times to call—
These pleasures grow not old, nor pall.
For me the simple things of life are best;
They warm my heart, my soul they rest."

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City in the Sand

As refugees turn homeward, UNRRA's welfare officer in Cairo, MARION F. WILSON, describes their life in wartime exile.

THE REFUGEES are going home. I saw them come, twenty-eight thousand strong, and I saw the first thirteen hundred Partisan Yugoslavs start the journey back, by truck to train to boat. At the end of the journey are their farms and fishing boats, their men and women who have fought and harassed the enemy, their homeland, a country that has fought and bled for its rebirth and independence—Yugoslavia.

As they leave there are speeches, songs, cheers, and tears. For these people—old men, young men disabled from the war, women, children, and babies—have lived here together for many months in El Shatt, a city made of tents stretched out over one hundred square miles of sand and merciless sun on the edge of the Sinai desert, eighty-five miles from Cairo.

Exodus

This first "flight," or movement of people, was the beginning of an exodus which was carefully planned by UNRRA, the allied naval and military authorities, and the Yugoslav government, for the repatriation of the huge majority of the one hundred thousand Greek, Yugoslav, and Polish refugees now being cared for in the Middle East, Belgian Congo, East Africa, Persia, and India. Several times a month a similar group will be moved until all have been returned.

Early in 1944, when flights of 4,000 to 5,000 Yugoslavs began arriving at El Shatt from the Yugoslav coastal section, Dalmatia, and the adjacent islands, each contingent had its own central refugee committee elected by the Yugoslav National Committee of Liberation, Dalmatian section. These committees now are traveling back with the refugees, trained and ready to cope with any domestic issues that may arise during the exodus; during the stay at El Shatt they have had good training and practice in coping with the problems of communal living and its necessary component, government.

Refugee City

The majority of the population of El Shatt are Yugoslavs, who were evacuated by the British army so that the Partisans would not be hampered by civilians in their guerilla war. However, there are six camp areas, sheltering such others as Greeks, Dodecanese, and Poles. The various peoples prefer to set up their own small communities within the larger refugee city.

At the time North Africa was a battlefield, El Shatt was a British army camp. As the army moved out, this location with its tents, water supply, basic buildings for kitchens, bathhouses, and hospital was a resource for housing refugees.

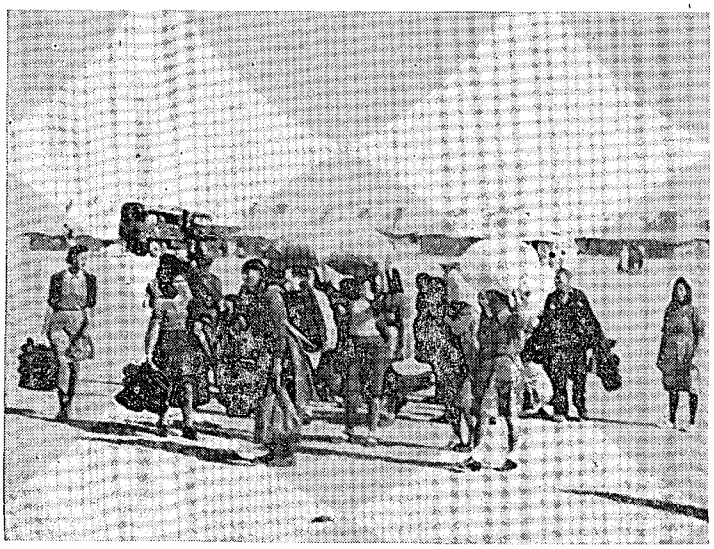
In the early days of its operation as a refugee center, El Shatt was managed by the British military with the assistance of volunteers from the Middle East Relief Administration. In May 1944, the operation of all the refugee camps in the Middle East became the responsibility of UNRRA, which has since cared for over 40,000 in this area.

The current staff consists of UNRRA employes, British military, and British and American voluntary society personnel on loan to UNRRA. Among these American volunteers are trained people employed and supplied by the Girl Scouts, the United States Public Health Service, the Quakers, and other religious groups. But the main government responsibility at El Shatt has been that of the people, through their committees. The group committees, through the camp central committee, take their suggestions, problems, and appreciation to the UNRRA camp administrator. Every individual refugee also has access to the camp administration.

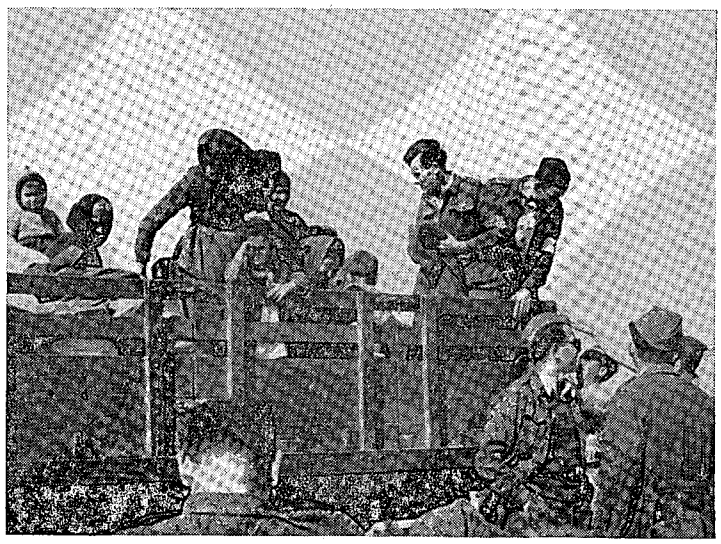
Keeping the Wheels Turning

A lot of what we call "donkey work" is necessary to operate a city of 28,000 people. The bulk of this work is done by the refugees themselves. Most of the able-bodied people hold jobs, such as: dressmakers, cobblers, brickmakers, bakers, cooks, firesquad workers, carpenters, metal-workers, sign painters, woodcarvers, masons, clerks, toymakers, camp guards, barbers, interpreters, waiters, truckers, teachers, hygiene squad workers, laborers, and *bolnicarka*. The *bolnicarka* (nurses) are some of the finest young girls in the camp. They have finished their training in basic nursing and are now on duty in the hospital, baby clinics, and sick bay tents.

The small UNRRA medical and nursing staff is not only responsible for the operation of the hospital and clinics, but also has taken the time to provide the young volunteers with a sound training in



Refugees take leave of the city in the sand—



—and load trucks for the journey back home

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hygiene and nursing. The *bolnicarka* are on a regular nursing schedule and live in a special compound adjacent to the hospital. When they go back to their homeland with the certificate they value so highly, they will be of inestimable service in their home communities in teaching others those basic health principles which they have learned well.

Throughout the camp there are carpenter, shoe repair, metal, and sewing shops. Since to date there has been very little new material available to work with, because of the heavy demands of the military, these shops operate on a "scrounge" system—making almost everything from scrap. Very practical shoes are made from discarded tent canvas and old tires. Packing crates supply the carpentry shops. Tin cans from the kitchen become cups and cooking utensils in the tinsmith shops. Discarded army uniforms are the delight of the sewing shops.

Several months ago a plane crashed in the Ataka Mountains about 15 miles from camp. Within a few days every piece of metal that could be secured by arduous climbing and eager search appeared in the metal shops. Each of these shops is manned by older skilled workers who learned their trade in the homeland, and by apprentices. The latter attend a special school for two hours a day to acquire theoretical knowledge of their trade.

Art Center

In addition to the workshops, there are tent studios for the artists, writers, sculptors and theater groups. Every effort has been made to preserve and encourage the cultural activities of the people. Again, progress is a story of the triumph of struggle and ingenuity over primitive

desert conditions and the lack of materials. The artists began with brown paper, powdered wall paints, a few brushes, and a pencil. Since this crude beginning, some supplies have arrived, the gifts of organizations throughout the world. The sculptors scoop their clay from the silt dug out of the near-by Suez Canal.

A Singing People

The Yugoslav Choir under the leadership of Maestro Hatze of Dubrovnik has attained a wide and enthusiastic audience throughout the Middle East. Concerts have been given in Cairo, Alexandria, and all the British and American military camps in the area. One of the concerts in Cairo was broadcast by the British Broadcasting Company, with the result that fan letters are still arriving.

One might well wonder why so many people work so hard, for they receive no wages or compensation, except that every person in camp receives 50 piasters a month (approximately $2.00) from UNRRA for spending money. This sum is to be repaid to UNRRA ultimately by the Yugoslav government.

I, too, wondered why they worked, for everyone had a place to sleep, food, and spending money. I wondered if these people were intimidated by their government, or if, for some reason, they were afraid. That didn't seem to be the answer, because a frightened people isn't happy, doesn't laugh and sing, sing, sing! Early in the morning, I could hear workers on their way to jobs in the central bakery or transportation depot, their voices in fine and happy harmony.

But in talking to their leaders and the people themselves, one can feel and sense a passionate desire for independence and liberty. They distrust any concept of charity. Self-respect is of the utmost importance. In order to go back and help rebuild their country, they feel the importance of doing everything possible to be self-sufficient.

I wondered if this spirit would hold when the first groups started for home. Their own committees make up the list for departures. Family groups and, in some cases, whole small community groups are kept together. Is everybody satisfied? Of course not. A few workers at the warehouse pulled a typical American sit-down. They were afraid they were such essential workers they would not be allowed to leave until the last flight. As soon as some of their committee members explained that workers from less essential jobs would be there in a few days to become understudies, they went back to work.

In contrast to this attitude, the Young Partisans, fourteen to sixteen-year-old boys who do much of the work around the camp, and many of the clerks and interpreters in key jobs, have volunteered to stay until the last flight. They, too, are eager to go home, but they have seen in the preparation for the first flight the amount of detail that goes into every evacuation.

Preparing to Journey Home

Because of the extreme shortages in Yugoslavia, UNRRA's Middle East office was anxious that the people go home with enough clothes to get them through their first year, but there were not enough available items to meet a minimum standard. A few days before the first group left, a shipment of used clothing arrived from America, collected by the churches last fall for distribution to the refugees. UNRRA staff and Yugoslavs worked together from early morning until midnight—working by lantern light is difficult—to sort, unpack, and size the garments for distribution. The committees then took each individual's clothing record and checked it against our mini-

Bales of clothing from the USA helped outfit ill-clad youngsters of refugee families

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mum scale. They issued deficiency slips for each person. A series of stalls was then set up out on the desert with a check-in tent at the beginning of the line and a check-out tent at the end.

I worked two hot days and windy nights in the check-in tent. I shouldn't mind having a good American dollar in the bank for every time I said, *"Molim. Ko broj cipela?"* (Please, what size shoe?) By the time the people were lining up at the scheduled markers along the road, waiting to be loaded on trucks to take them to the railroad station, everyone had at least a wearable pair of shoes or sandals and some of the garments on our clothing list. We distributed 8,000 items in that high speed operation. Since then, more bales of clothing have arrived, so a more routine schedule of distribution has been established.

In addition to this final clothing issue, each refugee is supplied with ten days' dry rations and one month's medical supplies. With each 1,000 refugees travel Yugoslav committee members and an UNRRA repatriation team consisting of a leader, a doctor, two nurses, a movement officer, and welfare worker. Within twenty-four hours of departure each refugee is given a final medical examination and receives antityphoid and antityphus injections and smallpox vaccination. Babies are innoculated against diphtheria.

The "Browned Off" Days

We American UNRRA staff members, along with our co-workers from England, Canada, South Africa, Czechoslovakia, New Zealand, France, Norway, Holland, Greece, Palestine, Rumania, and Armenia, have our days when we're sick of sun, and of sand in our shoes, when the food is dull and the army cots hard, when we get no mail and the flies are too affectionate; our days when, as the British soldier puts it, we're "browned off." We have our days. But when that day comes in early spring when the last departure list is checked, the final clothing issued, and the last refugees board the trucks, we will be thinking—not of the "browned off" days, but of the ever-changing sunsets behind the Ataka Mountains, the cool nights with stars so close, and those friendly smiling Yugoslavs with their special hail and farewell *"Stravo!"*

As El Shatt returns to sandy waste, we will move on to our next assignment knowing that in spite of the horror and rottenness of war, there is hope and faith in this part of the world. We have seen it, we have lived with it, here on the edge of the Sinai Desert, here in the "City in the Sand."

Putting the Brakes on Divorce

MARIE MUNK, now a private counselor, writes from experience as attorney, judge, marriage counselor in Domestic Relations Court.

"DIVORCE GRANTED, next case." This decision is made thousands of times every day in our courtrooms. Divorces are turned out on the assembly line. The judge who grants thirty or more divorces in a single day often knows or suspects that the plaintiff's sweetheart is waiting outside, ready to apply for a marriage license if everything "goes according to plan." Flippant divorces make a mockery of monogamous marriage. Prefabricated evidence, false testimony, perjury, and collusion between the plaintiff and defendant breed a lack of respect for law and the courts.

Before the war, approximately one out of six marriages in the United States ended in divorce, altogether 264,000 in 1940. Since then divorce rates have risen steadily. In Lucas County, Ohio, for example, with by no means the highest rate in the country, there were 61 percent more divorce petitions in 1944 than there were in 1940. The sharp increase of divorces among returning servicemen is attracting popular attention. There is no question but that eventually many ill-advised, hasty war marriages will fall by the wayside. Yet, thousands of "war casualty marriages" in which the partners now rush to the divorce courts, can and should be salvaged by improved community services.

We cannot, of course, blame the courts for the fact that so many people come to them to seek legal authority to break up their family relationship. Married couples divorce themselves. The divorce decree merely gives an official death sentence to a marriage whose foundations of love, affection, and respect are already shattered.

Legal Chaos

However, the confusion of our divorce laws and the manner in which they are administered, undoubtedly accentuate the problem. Would-be divorcees have the choice among as many as twenty grounds for divorce in some of our states. But in New York State, adultery is the only ground, while South Carolina will grant no divorces whatsoever. To meet legal requirements in many states, the plaintiff must charge the opponent with "extreme cruelty" or "gross neglect of duty" or some other misconduct. The defendant is "found guilty" in the divorce decree although he may be more innocent than the plaintiff. Many of our citizens are driven to subterfuge because of the stringent laws of their home state.

It is of little consolation that approximately only 70 percent of the petitions ultimately end in a divorce and that a large number are withdrawn, particularly by wives who, as in Lucas County, Ohio, do so four times more often than husbands. This is partly because their initiation of divorce proceedings is more apt to be taken on the spur of the moment and often in the expectation of scaring their husbands into more submissive behavior by threatening to break up the marriage. Husbands who sue for divorce are more likely to go through with it.

Contested divorces, in which the partners accuse one another, are among the most disheartening experiences of judges and lawyers. Moreover, they often result in no divorce at all. Yet, after a heated trial, the last pillars for a successful continuation of the marriage have broken down. The relationship between parents and children, if there are any, has become seriously impaired.

Under many existing laws, the plaintiff has to stage a "mock trial," in which the defendant is conspicuous by his absence and not even represented by counsel. In spite of the fact that applicants cannot base their petition on "mutual consent" as they can in Sweden, actually the majority of divorces are obtained with the mutual consent of both parties, and the particular charges are mere subterfuges to conform to the law, with the parties concerned, the lawyers, and the judges all perfectly aware of what is going on.

The Swedish law of 1920 not only recognizes mutual consent as a ground for legal separation and for a divorce after at least three years of separation and under further safeguards, but it also gives each spouse the right to ask for mediation by a minister or by a specially appointed board which shall include at least one man and one woman. In the United

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States, we have "socialized" our Juvenile Courts, but so far we have given scant attention to the need for more individualized procedure in matters of domestic discord.

Under our present laws, it is a good rather than a bad sign that approximately 90 percent of our divorces remain "uncontested." In the state of Ohio, the defendant files an answer in about 10 percent of the cases, but withdraws it in the vast majority, so that the divorce is actually tried as "uncontested." By first denying the cause of action, he often hopes and frequently succeeds in effecting a reconciliation or a property settlement before the case can be brought up for a hearing. Because of crowded calendars, contested divorces have to wait for months, whereas uncontested divorces may be tried after a few weeks.

A reconciliation after a period of separation, even after a petition for divorce has been filed, can mean the beginning of a new and better marriage. Both partners may have come to realize more clearly the good qualities of the other and will be more willing to make the necessary adjustments. If the community would give them a helping hand by expert counseling, many would never want to go to court again.

Attack the Source

We can put an end to many hasty and flippant divorces. But to do so, we must look into the real causes of marital discord and be concerned with each situation as a human social problem rather than a mere matter of legal jurisprudence. Social workers, psychiatrists, psychologists have the knowledge and skills with which to mend many broken marital fences and bring about understanding and harmony which would avoid the divorce decree. But their skills are seldom brought to bear at the focal point, that is, when the couple is struggling with the first serious marital misunderstandings and disappointments.

The earlier we can eradicate the cancerous growth which may eventually destroy love and affection, the better are our chances to improve the marital adjustment between the partners. Yet, even after a separation or the filing of divorce papers, it is often not too late for expert help to prevent the final breakup of a family. Unfortunately, most troubled couples are left to their own devices, and in despair consult crystal gazers and other quacks.

Two Out of Three Reconsider

The writer can bear witness that many marriages can be kept out of the divorce court, reconciliation effected, and family unity and affection restored. During the year 1944-45, while she was serving as marriage counselor in the Court of Common Pleas, Division of Domestic Relations of Lucas County (Toledo), Ohio, only about one third of the petitions in which the help of the counselor was invoked ended in a divorce decree. In the other two thirds, action was dropped, and the couples remained together, at least temporarily. Still more significant was the fact that two thirds of the clients who needed help desperately had no case pending in court. They came to the court counselor as a last resort, realizing that their marriage was reaching the breaking point.

Excerpts from letters, such as the following, are typical of the gratitude which successful reconciliation brings:

"We are perfectly happy now. We have come to the understanding that we were too flighty about small unimportant things."

"We have been getting along fine since our visit to you. Guess we were both to blame. You made us see that."

"I wish you would have some way of letting young people know of your service. . . . I do sincerely hope that other cities will follow Toledo's example and have a psychiatrist who will help marriage partners with their problems."

An accurate evaluation of the court counseling service would require a follow-up study covering a period of years. Yet, there is plenty of evidence to show that disruption of many marriages can be prevented by skilled family consultation service rendered at the right time and under proper circumstances. Only in rare instances do courts of jurisdiction have "counselors" on their staff. The social casework agencies make no special effort to offer their assistance to couples who file petitions. Nor is the general public sufficiently aware of the fact that they can turn to these agencies in their marital troubles. The result is that many couples wait ten, twenty, or more years during which their relationships constantly deteriorate.

Preventive Planning

In order to place skilled service at the disposal of the increasing number of couples whose only recourse now is the divorce decree, and to lay the foundation for a real preventive program, three essential steps are necessary:

— a broader development of family consultation centers or of existing services, coupled with a program in which they interpret the nature of their help to the community as a whole;

— a closer relationship between the casework agencies, the psychiatric services, and the courts;

— a "socialized" Court of Domestic Relations.

The first and second goal call for a

Drawn for *Survey Midmonthly* by Elizabeth Tazelaar

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pooling or centralization of family counseling services. Only then can the partners in divorce, separation or alimony proceedings be routinely referred by the courts or be approached by the counseling agency. Community agencies equipped to give this service must reach out to educate and enlighten the public on family problems by lectures and courses, by the press, and by well planned radio programs which explain and illustrate counseling facilities and procedures.

Even if our courts are unwilling as yet to depart from their traditional legalistic functions, they can nevertheless take the first step toward a "socialized" Court of Domestic Relations by providing a department in which both parties can get informal hearings. Many courts are already making efforts along this line. An *amicus curiae* or "referee" or probation officer acts as a fact-finding agency for the judge. He is able to give the judge a more complete and impartial picture of the extent of marital disharmony and the reasons for it, so that he is no longer blindfolded by the attorneys who "stage" the divorce trial.

A much more progressive step, which to the writer's knowledge has not yet been taken in our American courts, is the establishment of a "counseling" department. This requires a staff of trained counselors with university and postgraduate school of social work training in family casework and marriage counseling. At their disposal should be the services of psychiatrists and psychologists, and other specialists. Good intake workers with a full knowledge of community resources, and well-trained social caseworkers are a *sine qua non* for such a department. Only a visit to the home can disclose whether the husband's complaint that his wife is a poor homemaker is well-founded, or what kind of help the wife needs to overcome her problems.

If the counseling department is to fulfill its functions, a difficulty that must be ironed out is the dual responsibility of the counselor to the client and to the court. The judge is apt to expect the counselor to transmit all of the information which he receives from the client. The court hesitates to base its decision on "confidential" information which cannot be shared with the attorneys.

Confidence Must Be Respected

On the other hand, the client will talk freely only if he knows that his information will be held in confidence. Given that assurance, he will reveal facts which he would not disclose in open court. But if a record is to be laid before the judge, shared with the attorneys and other court departments, the confidential relationship is endangered. It is almost impossible to draw a sharp line between confidential and general information, or to keep both a "confidential" and a "non-confidential" record. Also, to secure the cooperation of psychiatrists, psychologists, ministers or social agencies, there must be assurance of privacy. Under United States law, a person cannot be compelled to take the witness stand to testify against himself. A counseling service must not be used to circumvent this basic principle.

However, if our courts are to deal intelligently with matters of marriage and domestic discord, the preservation of the family should be their main concern.

We should look upon them as organs of prevention rather than mere law enforcement agencies. They should therefore have counseling and reconciliation departments which are free from legalistic shackles.

However, the "counselors" of the court should not carry the main burden of preventive family service and consultation. In planning our community resources, we must take into account that spouses who are anxious to continue their marriage are prejudiced against going to court, even for consultation. In all urban communities, there are family casework agencies, children's agencies, often psychiatric clinics, and other services which can be brought to bear on the social difficulties in any family situation. The church can, and in many communities does, play a vital role in family counseling and education.

Couples who apply to the court and need more than "mediation" should be referred to the most appropriate agency for specialized assistance. Since the filing of a divorce petition is, in itself, evidence of a family breakdown, the agencies should accept the challenge and put their services at the disposal of the court and of the people who need their assistance. Nor should legal aid clinics, where they exist, be concerned merely with the legal angle. We shall put brakes on divorces only if we adopt the rule that no divorce should be granted before mediation and preventive treatment has been attempted, except in those cases which are obviously beyond salvation.

An undeniable obstacle, at present, lies in the fact that most of the people who file petitions hesitate to go to an unknown specialist or agency. In Toledo, most of those who came to the marriage counselor did not want to go to a social agency and even less to a mental hygiene center. Few had church affiliations; those that did have, did not want to consult their respective ministers, priests or rabbis. This attitude stems from the general misunderstanding of the nature of family breakdown and of the services which can help people who are in trouble.

Since we can help only those who are willing to accept our help, we must recognize the fact that "family counseling" as a service for all groups of people is a new field.

We need to educate our people not to be ashamed if they cannot solve their marital problems. They must learn to seek the advice of a marriage counselor just as they would go to a physician before their ailments reached the chronic stage. Perhaps prejudices would be overcome more readily if our community counseling services were reorganized as "Life Adjustment Councils" or Life Adjustment Centers." Such a name would imply that the service is open to all married and unmarried individuals who have problems of adjustment. The experiences of existing family consultation centers, such as the Institute of Human Relations in Los Angeles, the services in New York, Detroit, and elsewhere, certainly leave no doubt that we need more consultation facilities if our children are to grow up in happy homes.

Current Need Is Urgent

There has been great need for counseling services in the past. It has become more urgent as a result of the war. So far, little attention has been given to the problems of family discord which are shattering the fondest dreams of thousands of our war veterans. Even when both partners rejoice over their reunion, they face a period of adjustment in which expert counseling can be of immeasurable help.

A broken home means a broken heart, not only for the partners immediately concerned but also for their children. Disintegrated families add to problems of delinquency and to the maladjustment of the next generation.

We can get rid of the divorce evil by attacking it at the roots. We must begin to raise a sturdy marriage tree through education for family life, particularly in our high schools and colleges, and through the development of a deeper spiritual approach toward the responsibilities of marriage. Through the enactment and strict enforcement of marriage laws, we can put an end to child marriages, elopements, and other ill-advised, hasty marital unions. The marriage tree will not be uprooted by winds and storms if we put it in good soil and nurse it painstakingly.

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New Light for the War Blind

Blinded servicemen can now face the future more confidently, says F. FRASER BOND, American Foundation for the Blind, New York.

WHEN THE MEN of the services who have lost their sight in the war return to the U.S.A.,—and almost 1,200 have come back so far—they do not come marching. Far from it. They come leaning on special attendants or on their less seriously injured buddies, who lead them down the gangplank gingerly and slowly. Falteringly they arrive at hospitals and falteringly they grope around in their strange new darkness.

Later, and not so very much later at that, their life in the dark begins to grow lighter. First in the hospital and then in the rehabilitation center, they learn to adjust themselves to blindness and take their first steps toward personal rehabilitation. Then, their training ended, when they return to their own home towns, it is possible that they may come marching. They may even reach home unaccompanied, to face a future dark in the physical sense but bright in the prospect of useful days ahead.

Built on Experience

The rehabilitation program is all keyed to this end. It follows closely the recommendations made to the government by experienced workers in the field of blindness. As soon as the United States entered the war, these workers set up a committee under the chairmanship of Robert B. Irwin, sightless executive director of the American Foundation for the Blind, New York. This committee considered all phases of the care, treatment, and after-care of soldiers, sailors, and airmen blinded in war service, and sent its recommendations to Washington.

These recommendations included, among other things, provision for the early establishment of contact in hospitals with men blinded in the war; the immediate application of therapeutic measures, such as the teaching of handicrafts; the setting up of training centers to which the men could be moved and where their vocational abilities could be determined; and later, arrangements made for their rehabilitation in their own communities by local agencies.

Blindness in war, as in civilian life, cuts through every economic and social stratum. This fact points up the desirability of individual consideration and treatment for each person without sight. In the case of the war blind, each serviceman's education, tastes, and abilities are studied with a view to seeing to it that rehabilitation is fitted to the individual as accurately as possible.

In England, this plan has been followed with excellent results. For example, one young airman, who was found to possess a particularly delicate and sensitive touch, has been trained to fit instruments into the instrument-boards of airplanes. So adept has he become that he can now fit twenty such boards each day, as compared with a maximum of seventeen achieved by sighted workers on the same type of job.

As soon as blinded servicemen reach the United States, those from the army go either to the Valley Forge General Hospital at Phoenixville, Pa., or to Dibble General Hospital near Menlo Park, Calif., while sightless sailors are taken care of at the U. S. Naval Hospital in Philadelphia. In these military and naval institutions, the men find special personnel and equipment available to nurse them back to health, and help them take the first steps on the road to normal life in the dark. Here in the understanding company of their blinded buddies, and under the sympathetic direction of trained workers, many of whom are themselves blind, the returned men are learning much about their new way of life.

Telling Time by Braille

For one thing, they learn how to tell the time. The American Foundation for the Blind, as soon as it receives the name of a sightless veteran, sends to him with its compliments and thanks, a braille watch, on which the numerals he can no longer see have been replaced with raised glass dots which he can feel. Learning to tell the time by these watches, although a simple thing, is important. It frequently marks the first step which these sightless men take toward personal independence. As they say: "It's sure good to be able to tell the time without having to ask." To date the foundation has given 1,537 braille watches to blinded G.I.'s.

In hospital, the trainee goes through both the primary and intermediate periods of his adjustment. He learns how to wait on himself, serve himself, and dress himself neatly. He learns also how to find his way about his quarters. The first aim is to have the soldier make a satisfactory psychological adjustment to his loss of vision and, above all, to gain a confidence in social living. This initial training is handled by one instructor, an enlisted man, with the cooperation of a consultant. The intermediate period which follows, offers him academic training in basic skills necessary to prepare him for vocational training. During this period too, an added emphasis is placed on social contact. As soon as it is feasible, trainees are given class instruction in competitive and cooperative effort for the added benefit which working together as a group provides.

Advanced Instruction

After the sightless soldier has been cared for in hospital—where injuries other than blindness also have been treated—he goes to Old Farms Convalescent Hospital at Avon, Conn., for his period of advanced instruction. This is the rehabilitation and training center; and here, free from hospital restraints, he learns to become independent. The Old Farms establishment, previously a private school, has excellent buildings and grounds in which the G.I.'s can be trained.

On arrival there, each trainee familiarizes himself by touch with the details of his surroundings on a scale model of the Avon buildings and grounds. With his finger, he traces and fixes in his memory the relative positions of the separate buildings, the quadrangle, and the walks and paths. In place of his sense of sight, he begins to put greater reliance than he ever has before, on his senses of touch and of hearing.

With his background from these two periods of instruction, the trainee has reached the stage where he is ready for intensive vocational or professional training. He has also gained greater confidence in social living, and this phase of his training is stepped up with wider opportunities for social contacts.

At Avon, trainees embark on vocational courses usually lasting eighteen weeks —courses for which they have shown aptitude or in which they have expressed personal interest. Lessons in typing, clerical work, metal and woodworking are given. Those who are musically inclined study in nearby Hartford. Trainees who had skilled trades before the war and those who show manual dexterity are trained in the operation of complex machines, and have the chance to check their growing proficiency by "work tests" in some of the great Connecticut manufacturing plants within easy distance of Avon. Farming, dairy work, poultry and vegetable raising are taught, with the co-

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operation of Avon's neighbors who operate farms.

At the U. S. Naval Hospital in Philadelphia, the rehabilitation program for blinded sailors parallels in purpose, and to a large extent in procedure, the one outlined for sightless soldiers. Here, too, the trainee is helped in every way to get a line on his own abilities and limitations as the initial stage toward vocational training, and then to embark on a purposeful course of study looking toward future employment. Here is how the program has worked out in individual instances. One young sailor's tests showed aptitudes that could be used in an X-ray laboratory. He received training along these lines, and on discharge got employment immediately as an X-ray technician in a New York hospital. Another young man had been a stock clerk in a wholesale house. He wanted to go back to a similar job. His retraining was geared to this end, and he, too, secured employment on his discharge.

Getting Ready to Go Home

The government bears the full cost of this rehabilitation program. The private agencies for the blind supplement it whenever possible, but they know that their chief opportunity to help will come when the blinded serviceman returns as a civilian to his own home town. Representatives of the national agencies for the blind make contact with the men while in hospital and in Avon. Helen Keller, noted deaf-blind author, has been conspicuous in this contact work. Officers of these hospitals have come to regard her as one of the greatest morale builders. To illustrate the effect of her visits on the patients, the general in charge of a Texas hospital quotes the comment of a returned serviceman who had lost both his legs:

"I thought I was disabled and handicapped until I met Helen Keller. Now I know my handicaps can be overcome."

One of the most helpful things visitors from private agencies for the blind can do, is to make the returned man aware of the services already existing to benefit him. The sightless G.I. discovers in this way that he can enjoy many aids ready to hand which the blinded serviceman of World War I did not have. In the hospital ward he makes the acquaintance of the Talking Book—whole volumes recorded on long-playing phonograph discs. He finds that the Talking Book brings him every type of reading matter—novels, mystery stories, "best sellers," biographies, and textbooks that will help him in his studies. He discovers that each side of the record plays for fifteen minutes of reading time, and that the electric reading machine, which resembles a portable phonograph, is very easy for him to operate by touch alone.

But the discovery which brings him the greatest pleasure, is the fact that he can enjoy this Talking Book service in his own home when he returns to civilian life, and that he can enjoy it free of all cost. He learns that these books, recorded in sound, are a gift to blind people from the taxpayer, and are underwritten by an appropriation which Congress makes annually "for books for the adult blind."

Another service is one that will facilitate any trips he may plan in the future. It is a travel concession on all railways and the chief bus lines, which enables a blind person to travel with a companion or guide, for the price of one fare. He understands at once what this means. It means that while he is on a train or on a bus, he can relax and not be under the constant tension of listening for arrival and departure announcements or station names. It means that he will have someone he knows with him to help with his luggage, assist him in getting on and off the public conveyances, and guide him safely through the complexities of stations and crowds.

He hears of mechanical aids which have been developed in recent years and which now only await the releasing of materials for construction. He hears that engineers are already at work to adapt wartime inventions for use as peacetime benefits; that even the mysteries of radar and the versatile photo-electric cell will be plumbed to make his future easier. One such specific aid has passed the experimental stage in England. It is a radio location box. When perfected, it will enable the blind user to detect an object standing in his path, and also its exact distance from him. This device has met preliminary tests which seem to indicate prospective usefulness. Work is now proceeding to bring its necessary mechanism down to one pound in weight so that the blind person can carry it in his pocket.

On discharge, a blind serviceman with no other disability is entitled to a pension up to $190 a month under regulation compensation laws. Before he leaves his rehabilitation courses, the plan is to have special officers from the government's program and, when possible, from private agencies, visit his home and prepare the way for him.

"Meat at Six o'Clock"

These officers will show relatives and friends how to save the blind man unnecessary embarrassment. Families will be urged not to be oversympathetic and to avoid making their blinded veteran feel sorry for himself. They will be urged to give him understanding and help instead. For instance, relatives will be shown how to prepare his dinner plate in the way he has grown accustomed to having it set. And how is that? Ask a blinded G.I. and he will say: "Oh, I think of my plate as if it was the face of a clock. I find the potatoes at two o'clock, the meat at six o'clock, the peas at nine o'clock and so on. If the plate is fixed for me in this way, I always know where to look for things."

Probably the greatest morale building

International News

Braille watch on which numerals have been replaced by raised glass dots helps blind veteran take first step toward independence

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factor for the war-blinded G.I. has been provided by blind people themselves. Thousands of sightless people, because of the pressure of war work and the labor shortage, have successfully demonstrated to previously skeptical employers the skill, the efficiency, and the application which they can bring as workers in general industry. The clouds of war have undoubtedly had a silver lining for the nation's blind, and the G.I. who returns to this country without sight, soon discovers that the old prejudice against employing visually handicapped persons, has been somewhat lessened. He quickly realizes that this state of affairs—brought about by blind people themselves—holds great significance for him. It enables him to face more confidently a future in which he feels he can live a useful, a constructive, and a rewarding life.

Group Treatment of the Mentally Ill

J. W. KLAPMAN, M. D., of the Institute for Juvenile Research, tells how patients may learn to "see themselves as others see them."

ALTHOUGH THE PUBLIC has become more aware of the urgent need for dealing with the problems of mental health, it is still not generally known that half the hospital beds in this country are in mental hospitals. Nor it is known that one person out of twenty-two is destined to spend some part of his life in a mental institution.

Through taxation, the citizens of this country pay the bills to maintain most of these institutions. And they continue to accept the idea that commitment means a "life sentence." The public needs to be informed as to just what mental illness is, and how it can be treated. Sometimes it is permanent, but often the deterioration that makes this necessary is partly the result of neglect and social isolation, rather than of the mental illness itself.

It should be understood by the taxpaying public that mental illness can be treated, and that provision for adequate care can cut down the ultimate tax burden. The way would then be clear for institutions to include in their treatment more of the interests and pursuits of normal everyday living. Experiments with group therapy have shown that this is an important factor in the reeducation of the mental patient.

Early Uses of Group Treatment

There are not enough psychiatrists to handle individually more than a small fraction of the patients who require treatment. This situation is being alleviated to some extent by the use of psychotherapy—mental treatment of patients in groups of from eight to twenty.

The earliest applications of group psychotherapy were not made in the field of mental illness but in that of general organic disease. In 1905, the first meeting of a group of tuberculous patients took place in Boston under the care of Dr. J. H. Pratt. They were given instruction in personal hygiene and their weight record books were checked over. These patients invariably enjoyed a degree of mental stimulation and encouragement as a result of the meetings and the company of their fellows.

In 1908, Dr. W. R. Emerson began to employ the class method with a group of undernourished children at a Boston dispensary. Each child was weighed, measured, and placed in a seating arrangement which ran in the order of the greatest weight gains. If he failed to gain for several successive periods, a careful inquiry was made. This included a home visit by a social worker and a study of the dietetic regimen in class, with the discussion open to other parents and children. Because of the good results obtained, this method of treatment became increasingly popular, and classes were organized for such diverse groups as diabetics, patients with heart ailments, new mothers, and so on.

Later Experiments

Little application of this principle was made in the field of mental disorders until 1912, when Dr. L. C. Marsh carried on some experimental work with a group of psychoneurotic patients. By 1920, Dr. Edward H. Lazell was treating groups of dementia praecox patients by the class method at St. Elizabeth's Hospital in Washington, D. C. He had become keenly aware of the need for adequate treatment of the large numbers of mental patients for whom individual psychotherapy was not available. Searching for a general approach, he experimented by delivering a series of sixteen lectures to a group of withdrawn, introverted, emotionally "leveled-off" dementia praecox patients. Dr. Lazell described the effect in these words:

"Silent, dreamy boys suddenly became interested and drank in every word, realizing that here was someone who understood their troubles. [They had been] ashamed of themselves and suffering from a profound feeling of inferiority, guilt, and failure, and afraid to confess to anybody because they considered themselves unique in their degradation . . . ."

But it remained for the present war to give the greatest impetus to group psychotherapy. There were just not enough physicians and psychiatrists in the armed forces to go around. Out of desperate necessity the medical services set about adapting psychotherapy to a great variety of groups—fliers with operational fatigue, psychoneurotic seamen, infantrymen with combat fatigue. In civilian life the group approach has come to be used for mothers with problem children, problem children themselves, and for mental cases.

The Social Approach

At first glance, it might seem that the only advantage in treating mental patients in a group would be that larger numbers could be cared for by the psychiatrist at one time. This might give the impression that group psychotherapy was just a makeshift where the individual received only a minimum of personal attention.

Actually, group therapy does not displace individual therapy. It treats the patient from a new approach—the social approach to the individual. Group and individual therapy complement each other. The well-known facts about the behavior of crowds show certain psychological phenomena not encountered in the relationship of two individuals.

As Le Bon and McDougall have shown, a crowd or mob may indulge in the most violent passions and enjoy sights too gruesome for even the least squeamish of its component individuals. Mobs may go on lynching sprees, or seized by an overpowering emotion, commit unspeakable atrocities. Yet, individually, its members may be ordinary, law-abiding citizens. A crowd is highly suggestible, and group emotion is contagious.

But group emotion need not be inevitably destructive. Under the right conditions, the group can be stimulated to perform the noblest feats, and is capable of the most unselfish acts of self-immolation. It is this group influence which can be utilized in the treatment of the mentally ill.

In any group there is usually some

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identification with a central person, not necessarily "the leader" in the ordinary sense. True, he may be "the leader" or "hero," but he may even be the opposite, "the tyrant." More or less unconsciously there is a tendency for each member of the group to feel and act like the central person.

In group treatment the central person is the therapist. He can and does exercise considerable influence, and this influence is further reinforced by mutual group emotion. He uses the group to establish quickly a treatment relationship with each member—difficult or impossible to establish on an individual basis.

Informal Discussion Groups

The therapist encourages informal discussions. Worthwhile digressions are encouraged. One physician devised a textbook dealing with social adjustment and has used it in class with considerable success. Occasionally the digressions suggest subjects for debate, in which case sides will be chosen, a date set, and judges appointed, the therapist acting as moderator. Contestants may ask for references and be assisted by the therapist and librarian. Sometimes book reports and theses are assigned.

One patient delivered a very creditable chalk-talk on meteorology. Another submitted an interesting short thesis on alchemy, neatly typed and bound, and for some time after leaving the institution continued to conduct enthusiastic historical research in the subject.

The physician who devised the class textbook just mentioned included a brief chapter on biology. When the class reached this part of the book he usually took them on a tour of inspection of the hospital's clinical laboratory, demonstrating various types of apparatus and their use. Patients were shown slides of tissue cells and germs. Their interest and respect were marked.

What are the means by which group psychotherapy accomplishes its beneficial effects? Emotional catharsis, or "getting it off your chest"—which is a relief to anyone—is employed as one means. The difficulty is that the "insane" or psychotic patient cannot easily be induced to "get it off his chest," chiefly because he doesn't always know what he has on his chest. But in a group he begins to discover the identity or similarity of his problem with that of others and is taken out of his isolation. When his problem is made objective, it loses much of its poignancy for him. The suggestive influence of the group is a potent factor in helping him overcome his feeling of inferiority and makes it easier for him to accept his place in society.

It sounds so simple—merely "getting things off one's chest." In reality, it is not simple. How often does even a so-called normal individual truly bare his soul to anyone else? Even confidences between husbands and wives rarely contain the individual's innermost thoughts, yet they may be among the most potent causes of a person's unhappiness. When conveyed to the psychiatrist or psychoanalyst, the therapeutic effect of release from these burdens is much greater than is ordinarily attributed to the usual conception of "getting things off your chest."

Few persons realize to what extent their lives are governed by clichés and social images. The psychotherapist soon discovers that the average patient (and most so-called normal persons) do not think as individuals but in terms of socially approved concepts, symbols, and images. Where some experience of the individual flatly contradicts the socially prescribed pattern, he will usually resolve the conflict by repressing his own experience and its accompanying emotion. Thus in group psychotherapy, when the inescapable conclusion of a question posed by the therapist contradicts the conventions, the patients at once give clear evidence of perplexity and mental conflict.

Getting at the Conflict

For instance, on one occasion, the more or less common belief that clergymen's sons generally do not turn out well came up for discussion. The physician did not vouch for the truth of this belief but asked how, if true, it might be accounted for. One young dementia praecox patient ventured the explanation that clergymen's sons do not turn out well "because they have such an easy time of things."

The therapist differed, and pointed out how circumspect they must be in all their public utterances and actions—often not permitted to go to dances or movies; no Sunday baseball; gossiping members of the church pick up the most innocuous occurrences and greatly enlarge on them. The patient smiled faintly, and remarked, "Well, I'm a minister's son," and began to enumerate similar episodes out of his own experience.

Another patient, also diagnosed dementia praecox, staunchly defended the position of the mother-figure and the whole sentimental constellation of ideas surrounding the subject. When ambivalence (positive and negative feelings entertained toward the same person) was discussed and demonstrated in a case history, he appeared interested. In subsequent personal interviews he revealed how his mother had always dominated him. He stated with considerable emotion that he had been involved in a murder charge through her. This fact was corroborated by his record. For the greater part of his life the patient had been under his mother's influence—not entirely willingly. He told how his parents had dominated his own home. At the time of his hospitalization he had been living with his mother, apart from his wife and young son, attempting to contribute to both households. After his discharge he was able to throw off the maternal yoke and accept the responsibility of his wife and son.

Evidence of Gains

While as yet no statistical analysis of this type of treatment has been made, patients tested with an adjustment inventory and with mass Rorschachs (psychological personality tests) before and after some weeks of group psychotherapy showed marked improvement. There is also the testimony of the armed forces which have used this method extensively.

The impressions of individuals who have actually administered this treatment are also to be taken into consideration, for they have been part of the process. Between them and their charges has passed that subtle emotional understanding which, though it defies statistical evaluation, is nevertheless real. There is probably more human than statistical value in the following thumbnail case history:

A young woman mental defective, not low grade, had a marked speech defect in addition to poor reading ability. She could hardly be understood when she attempted to read aloud in class. The suggestion was made to her by the therapist that she practice reading aloud. After several weeks there was a distinct improvement in her enunciation. The psychiatrist, questioning one of her wardmates, learned that she had dutifully carried out instructions and had been reading to other patients. She was complimented in class on her diligence. When she was about to leave the institution she spoke to the therapist about a WPA evening school which she planned to attend. About two years later, when visiting the institution, she told the therapist with pardonable pride that she had been graduated from the school. She now is earning her own living at work which she enjoys.

The process of mental or personality growth is largely that of acculturation which is primarily mediated through the parents and the family circle. Since the class parallels the family situation, the partial reconstruction of acculturation in the group cannot help but recall the original setting. In all probability, the therapist proves to be a father-surrogate, but one who, it is to be hoped, is less arbitrary than some parents. He permits the patient greater expansiveness; permits him, in a measure, to see and inspect the various steps in his reconstruction, with the result that insight is fostered. As one patient expressed it, "You really see yourself as others see you."

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THE COMMON WELFARE

Children in Peacetime

Assurance that the values of the National Commission on Children in Wartime will not be lost was one of the results of the commission's final meeting in Washington last month. Members of a new body, the National Committee on Children and Youth, to be appointed by Katharine Lenroot, chief of the U. S. Children's Bureau, will be nominated by a committee from the outgoing commission. The secretariat, as before, will be provided by the bureau. In addition to its general purpose of reviewing facts and formulating recommendations for action in the many areas of child welfare, the new agency will give particular attention to the stimulation and encouragement of state and local planning.

The wartime commission's range of interest is indicated by the variety of resolutions adopted at this concluding session: for prompt congressional action in appropriating the remaining $600,000,000 to UNRRA; for the formulation of policies for child welfare in the Pacific islands now under United States control; for prompt action in setting up an international organization under the Economic and Security Council of UNO to deal with health, welfare, and youth matters; to applaud President Truman for his initiation of measures to meet the world food crisis; to authorize the chairman to make recommendations to Congress, at appropriate times, in relation to matters on which the commission has acted.

As an organized "voice" on behalf of peactime child welfare, the new committee is assured of many vital and perplexing problems which will need the full strength of its leadership.

"One of the Neighbors"

March 4 was "Mary K. Simkhovitch Day" in New York City's Greenwich Village. It was a day of community tribute to the retiring head of Greenwich House, the settlement she founded in 1902, and has directed for forty-four years. Mrs. Dexter P. Cooper, associated with the center for the past five years, becomes its director, and Mrs. Simkhovitch will continue to live in Greenwich House as director-*emeritus*.

Mrs. Simkhovitch began her social work career in 1897 at the College Settlement on Rivington Street. Out of her year there and three years at the Friendly Aid House, she evolved a concept, now widely accepted, of settlement work as a social movement shared equally by contributors, staff and neighbors, in a cooperative effort in neighborhood organization and service. "Social understanding of human problems rather than altruism, however well meaning, and social action based on this understanding should be the motivating force of settlement houses," she insisted.

The manifold activities developed under her leadership are the vigorous expression of that creed. They include staff studies of neighborhood problems, including wage levels, dock conditions, old age poverty, urban race relations; the Greenwich House Music School; the children's theater; the Greenwich House Workshops; movements for slum clearance, public housing, municipally supported child welfare clinics, recreational opportunities in congested areas.

Mrs. Simkhovitch was honored at a dinner at the Roosevelt Hotel, where she was presented with "a permanent testimonial," the Mary K. Simkhovitch Fund for Greenwich House, raised by friends, associates, and the general public.

But it was at the neighborhood party, with guests ranging in age from three to ninety-one, that Mrs. Simkhovitch said, "This ageless gathering of all my friends here gives me the nicest honorary 'degree' I could ever receive—the degree of 'one of the neighbors.'"

Keep the Gates Open

A 50 percent reduction in existing immigration quotas is proposed in a bill (H. R. 3663) introduced by Representative Ed Gossett of Texas. The measure deals with other immigration matters also, but it is the quota provision on which attention is focused in the hearings now being held by the House Committee on Immigration and Naturalization.

At the first hearing on February 21, representatives of the American Legion and of the Veterans of Foreign Wars spoke in favor of the bill. They based their arguments that immigration should be suspended, or at least reduced, on the housing shortage and the fact that unemployment is increasing. One of the speakers voiced the opinion that it is the "duty" of Europeans to remain in Europe and assist in rehabilitation there.

Earl G. Harrison, formerly commissioner of Immigration and Naturalization, and now the United States representative on the Intergovernmental Committee for Refugees, appeared before the House committee on February 27 to argue eloquently against the proposed quota reduction. His reasoning evidently impressed the congressmen, who invited him to speak at greater length at a hearing in March. A number of other persons also will testify against the proposal at the hearings scheduled for that month.

Under the present provisions of the law, only about 150,000 quota immigrants may be admitted annually, but since 1930 only a small part of this yearly total has been used. Before 1914, it was not unusual for this country to admit over a million immigrants a year.

In the statement which he issued on December 22, 1945, in connection with his directive concerning the immigration to the United States of certain displaced persons in Europe, President Truman expressed opposition to any cut in quotas.

"I am informed," he said, "that there are various measures now pending before the Congress which would either prohibit or severely reduce further immigration. I hope such legislation will not be passed. This period of unspeakable human distress is not the time for us to close or to narrow our gates."

Strikers and Relief

The Pennsylvania State Department of Public Assistance reported on February 18 that during the month of January, the increase in general assistance rolls was nearly two and a half that of the preceding month. Seventy percent of the general assistance case openings were because of "loss of income from employment" and in half of these cases, "industrial layoffs or disputes were directly responsible."

As widespread work stoppages resulted in economic distress on the part of strikers' families in many parts of the country, public assistance agencies have been pressured in two directions: they have been urged to withhold relief from strikers, and they have been urged to grant it. In New York, the Social Work Action Committee issued a statement, early in the year, to the effect that labor was "fighting not only for itself but for the life and security of the American people," and that social workers who wished to support the people in this movement should do their part "by maintaining in public and private agencies a policy of full assistance to all in need, with no discrimination against strikers and their families."

Social workers and lay leaders who are

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involved in attempting to make policy in such a conflict situation will be interested in an article by Marion Hathway, which appears in the March issue of *Citizen CIO*, monthly publication of the National CIO Community Services Committee. Miss Hathway, professor of public welfare at the school of applied social sciences, University of Pittsburgh, writes under the title, "The Need is the Criterion."

Miss Hathway's case is built upon the basis of what the law says. The right of employes to organize and bargain collectively through representatives of their own choosing, and the right of the individual to assistance when his need is established, are both a part of statute law. The National Labor Relations Act recognizes striking as a legitimate form of concerted activity. Analysis of the meaning and implication of these three facts leads Miss Hathway to the conclusion that "the right of the striking wage-earner to assistance is inherent in the concept of meeting need."

She points out that since strikes are legal, the individual member of the union is "acting responsibly and in accordance with statutory approval if he participates in the various steps of the collective bargaining process." Intervention in the case of a national crisis, she believes, is the responsibility of the federal government.

Miss Hathway rests her case on the fact that, in order to fulfill the purpose of public assistance statutes, economic need must be met when and where it arises, and that "eligibility to assistance must be determined by criteria bearing on this need."

Closing the Gap

Meeting in Convention Hall in Atlantic City, 3,000 delegates to the seventeenth convention of the YWCA's of the United States adopted on March 5 a series of recommendations calling for "inclusion of Negro women and girls in the main stream of Association life" as a definite goal of the organization.

The action, which was taken almost unanimously, involved thirty-five recommendations made by the committee to study interracial practices in the YWCA. The committee, appointed by the 1940 convention, had completed its study early in 1944, so that the report had been discussed and debated in regional and local groups. Delegates also approved a proposal for each of the 434 local YWCA's to create an interracial committee to take the initiative in helping the national board translate the program into action.

Specific recommendations of the study call for full use of electoral membership rights by Negro members, participation in members' meetings, and service on committees and as delegates with "full responsibility and partnership" with other members.

Other proposals involve staff and volunteer leadership. For example, it is urged that members of the boards be nominated from those candidates who "have knowledge of the inclusive aims" of the YWCA; that selection of professional staff include evaluation of interracial experience and attitude of applicants, and that these candidates be "willing to accord the same respect to Negro staff members as to white"; that in recruitment of clerical and maintenance workers, the interracial character of the organization be clearly described, and that those be employed who are "willing to work with members of the Negro race as equals."

The experience of the study committee is revealed when it touches on areas where practical problems arise in carrying out an interracial program. YWCA's operating residences, cafeterias, camps, and health education departments are urged to "move to initiate practices in keeping with the purpose of the organization." Following this, it is suggested that when the budget is planned, it be taken into account that income-earning departments like these should not be pressed to produce revenue "at the expense of negating the purpose of the association."

In relation to the practice of some local YWCA's of operating branches limited to Negro members, it is urged that the validity of having such branches be tested on the basis of their effectiveness in furthering integration. Where such branches do exist, the committee calls for "recognition that planning separately for any racial group in the population is too partial to be sound."

These recommendations, as approved by the convention, become directives for the national board of the organization, both as regards practices in the national offices and the work of the national traveling staff. Local YWCA's take individual action on the recommendations referred to them by the convention. It is recognized that there must be "flexibility in the nature and timing of forward steps." According to a spokesman for the organization, the YWCA's see themselves as advancing "only after careful education and interpretation to those people of any community who are most concerned." This is not inconsistent with the desire to do a pioneering job, it was pointed out.

A national speaker recently said that the social ills of our country were due to the discrepancy between "belief and behavior." The YWCA study of interracial practices, which was an attempt to determine specific discrepancies within the organization, furnished a basis for the convention to move toward closing the gap between purpose and practice.

Up to Congress

A recent recapitulation of the wartime successes of the social protection division of the Office of War Community Services in controlling vice and venereal disease makes good reading for those who believe that results should speak for themselves. Over 700 communities abolished tolerated houses of prostitution. Ninety-two percent of the police chiefs of America have given active support to vice suppression. Two hundred cities have set up representative social protection boards as part of the city administration. "Self-policing committees" of hotel and tavern owners are functioning successfully in 37 percent of the communities with which the division has been working. In the areas adjacent to camps and military establishments, where the main efforts of the division were concentrated, there has been a steady reduction of infections both among military and civilian personnel.

Venereal disease, however, is no wartime phenomenon. It is a major cause of death, and its attendant social evils—prostitution, sex crimes and juvenile delinquency—must always be a matter for enlightened community concern.

The wartime program served to demonstrate not only what can be done, but what needs to be done on a permanent and continuous peacetime basis. By the nature of the case, it was mainly confined to cities with a military concentration. At least two thirds of the communities of the country are estimated to have low standards of detention care for young offenders. Working relationships between the courts, health departments, police, and welfare agencies is often poor, and seldom can be rated as excellent. Service to youthful first offenders, where there is the best opportunity for rehabilitation and prevention, is generally less adequate than more obviously needed repressive measures.

Noting "an increasing relaxation" of community effort, Bascomb Johnson, on behalf of the American Social Hygiene Association, Surgeon General Thomas Parran of the U. S. Public Health Service, representatives of the army and the navy, and of churches and other civic groups are strongly urging congressional action to make the social protection program a permanent part of the Federal Security Agency. Twin bills to this end have been introduced in both houses with H. R. 5234 referred to the Judiciary Committee and S. 1779 to the Committee on Education and Labor.

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HERE IN WASHINGTON

AT LONG LAST THE HOUSE WAYS and Means Committee has opened hearings on the proposed expansion of the social security program—the Wagner-Murray-Dingell bill.

The hearings probably will be lengthy, but there is a slim chance that the committee may decide that protracted testimony is unnecessary. It has before it the recommendations of the Social Security Board, the elaborate program embodied in the bill itself, and now the comprehensive report prepared by the committee's own experts.

The committee's own 742-page report was prepared by the technical staff appointed at Chairman Doughton's suggestion. Leonard J. Calhoun, who headed the staff, did a thorough job. (See "Basic Issues in Social Security," by John J. Corson, *Survey Graphic,* March 1946.)

Mr. Calhoun's report agrees with the other experts as to the need for "greatly broadened social security coverage." He agrees also that servicemen should receive credits for old age and survivors insurance for the period spent in the armed forces and that federal employes should be covered to afford protection for those who shift from private to public employment and *vice versa.*

The Calhoun report finds that the present payroll tax of one percent is "far more than necessary" for the payment of current benefits for old age and survivors insurance. It suggests (1) that for old age and survivors insurance, as now provided, social security tax rates be 1½ percent on the first $3,000 of wages from employer and employe alike during the ten-year period 1947-56 inclusive; (2) that this rate be increased one half percent in 1957, 1967 and 1977; (3) that a federal subsidy be anticipated in future years.

Besides old age and survivors insurance, the report examines old age assistance, aid to dependent children and to the blind, general assistance, and unemployment compensation. It does not take up the proposed health and medical program.

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BAFFLED IN HIS ATTEMPT TO UNseat General Omar N. Bradley of the Veterans Administration, John Stelle, national commander of the American Legion, is asking his two million legionnaires to serve as "watchdogs" over veterans affairs.

Under the Stelle plan the Legion's 13,400 posts are holding meetings to discuss the reports from the watchdogs. As a framework for these reports Stelle sets forth a ten-point objective for veterans, covering the current backlog of VA claims, applications and letters, faster expansion of hospital facilities, speedier decentralization, and "ruthless dealing with any government agency delaying proper housing for veterans."

Stelle's attack on the popular General Bradley has hurt the Legion with many of the veterans of World War II. But it has contributed to the decision of a number of the left-wingers among the ex-GIs to joint the Legion and "bore from within" instead of affiliating with one of the liberal new veterans groups.

The left-wingers' argument is that they can be more effective in the Legion than out. One or two well instructed leftists, they point out, can do a lot to change the thinking of a group less well posted and less alert to their opportunities.

JOHN WINANT, OUR AMBASSADOR in London, is being mentioned as possible chairman of the three-man board of economic advisers to the President to be set up under the Maximum (not Full) Employment Act.

After fourteen months of skulduggery the bill finally passed and, its backers believe, covers fairly well the concepts of the original proposal. President Truman, who had threatened not to sign the bill passed by the House, is quoted as saying that the final measure was not all he had hoped for but, by inference, not as bad as he feared.

The President said: "The Employment Act of 1946 is not the end of the road but the beginning. It is a commitment by the government to the people—a commitment to take any and all measures necessary for a healthy economy, one that provides opportunities for those able, willing and seeking to work."

Actually, of course, the success of the program will depend upon the caliber of the advisers appointed and the extent to which their advice is accepted. That was true in the original bill. It is even more true in the bill finally passed which is now law. To say that this compromise bill was only a face-saving device is hardly fair. It is even more unfair to dismiss it as a fraud. It could be both, of course, if those responsible for the administration of the act (which includes both executive and legislative branches of the government) were insincere or indifferent.

Senator Taft of Ohio is quoted as saying the act "is definitely not a victory for Truman." Whether or not it is a victory for the people remains to be seen.

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THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON Education and Labor will open hearings on the national health bill on March 18.

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THE NEW HOUSING CZAR, WILson Wyatt, is getting very feeble cooperation from Congress, in his effort to provide 2,700,000 new homes, with priority to World War II veterans. In the House, Republicans and southern Democrats defeated the subsidy feature of the Patman Housing Bill which, Mr. Wyatt had pleaded at the hearings, spelled success or failure for his program. As finally passed, the bill was described by its sponsors as giving Mr. Wyatt about half the tools he needs. In the Senate, the measure apparently faces delay now and controversy in the future.

In a statement on the House action, Mr. Wyatt said, "If I were a veteran hunting for a house I would be rather disheartened tonight—a bit perplexed and not a little angry."

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THE EQUAL RIGHTS AMENDment (S.J.Res.61) has been approved by the Senate Judiciary Committee and a report should be out in the near future.

The resolution has a fair chance of passage in the Senate but it will not enjoy such clear sailing in the House. The House resolution (H.J.Res.49) came up in July on the consent calendar, but was stricken off (three votes can do it) and has since reposed peacefully on the regular calendar with no action scheduled.

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THE APPOINTMENT OF DR. Esther C. Brunaur to represent the United States on the Preparatory Commission of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, carries with it the rank of minister. This makes Dr. Brunaur the third American woman to hold a top flight diplomatic post—the other two being, of course, Mrs. J. Borden Harriman, former minister to Norway, and Mrs. Ruth Bryan Rohde, former minister to Denmark.

Dr. Brunaur goes to the meeting in London on a leave of absence from her job in the State Department.

Pierre Salinger

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THE COUNTRY OVER

Education

A national advisory committee, representing the layman's point of view on American education, has been organized by the U. S. Office of Education, and will hold its first meeting in Washington late this month. The office has frequently made use of committees on special phases of education. The new agency is set up, in the words of John W. Studebaker, commissioner of education, "to represent the people throughout the country who establish and support schools and colleges." The twenty-seven members are active in labor, business, agriculture, homemaking, the professions, veterans' groups, religious groups, and Negro groups. The term of each member is three years, and one third of the membership is to be appointed annually.

The Champaign Case

An Illinois court recently handed down a unanimous decision upholding the right of the school district of the city of Champaign to permit classes in religious instruction in the school buildings during school hours. The case arose out of the mandamus petition of Vashti McCollum, mother of a child in one of the public schools, to prohibit the holding of the classes. Mrs. McCollum's philosophy is "rationalism," including atheism.

The classes were established about five years ago by arrangement between the local school board and the Champaign Council of Religious Education, composed of representatives of the Protestant, Jewish, and Roman Catholic faiths. Classes are held for one period a week during the school day in both elementary and high schools.

The court found that the classes are voluntary, and that a child has to have the written consent of his parents to enroll, that they are nonsectarian, and that no part of the expense is borne by the taxpayers. It ruled that "no constitutional or statutory rights" of Mrs. McCollum or her son "have been violated by the Champaign system of religious education, as it is conducted, according to the testimony in this record." The case has been appealed.

Chicago and the NEA

As the 1945 school year was closing, the Commission for the Defense of Democracy through Education, a subsidiary of the National Education Association, published a report of its six months' investigation of the Chicago public schools. The report made serious charges against the school administration, including unethical personnel practices; intimidation of teachers and principals; the operation of a "spy system" in the schools; usurpation of functions of school executives by members of the board of education. The report also mentioned "a number of instances of financial irregularity," which the commission did not have authority to investigate.

Six months after the publication of this report, the NEA Committee on Ethics voted to expel William H. Johnson, superintendent of Chicago schools for ten years, from his life membership in the association. He was charged with violations of the NEA code of ethics. The action was taken after an open hearing at the NEA headquarters in Washington, which Mr. Johnson failed to attend. Following the committee's action, the Chicago board of education expressed its "complete confidence" in Mr. Johnson.

Late last month, a group of Chicago civic leaders demanded a grand jury investigation of the NEA charges.

Discrimination

In New York City, colleges and universities recently have been charged with discriminating against Negro, Catholic, and Jewish students. The usual method, it is held, is to set up a "quota" with applicants considered not on the basis of ability, but of "the quota situation." Mayor William O'Dwyer has ordered the tax commission to conduct an investigation into the enforcement of state laws against discrimination. He particularly directed the commission to explore all methods of enforcing compliance with Section 4, Subdivision 6 of the state Tax Law, which forbids any tax-exempt school to bar a student because of race, color or religion.

Bills calling for the establishment of a state university, at an initial cost of $50,000,000 have been introduced in both chambers of the New York state legislature. Under the terms of this proposal, the new university would be charged with responsibility for affording equal opportunity to all qualified students for cultural, scientific, and professional study and training.

In a message to the legislature, urging the creation of a special commission to study the proposal for a state university, Governor Thomas E. Dewey declared that the main purpose of such an institution should be to broaden educational opportunity, and keep New York in the van of educational leadership. It should not be created, he held, as an attempted remedy for racial and religious discrimination in other schools and colleges.

Summer Plans

Barnard College and the New York School of Social Work will hold a second annual institute on community problems, June 10-28. The purpose of the institute is "to meet the need for intelligent leadership in the field of community organization and social planning." Attendance is limited to men and women volunteers who are active in some form of community service. Morning sessions will be conducted by nationally known leaders in various fields of social welfare. In the afternoons, smaller groups will meet with experts for intensive study of such problems as housing, recreation, race relations.

The campus of Goddard College, Plainfield, Vt., will be the scene of the second New England Workshop on Social Engineering, July 7 to August 11. The plans, in which a number of regional and national organizations are cooperating, will bring together people with a variety of interests. Working in committees on government, business and labor, education, social groups, the workshop will seek "to arrive at an understanding of special problems in relation to general problems of the region as a whole." The report of the 1945 workshop, available through the college, analyzes the need for such regional study, and reports in detail the work done last summer.

For Newcomers

Seeking to help newly arrived immigrants prepare themselves for United States citizenship as rapidly as possible, the U. S. Immigration and Naturalization Service is now sending the names and addresses of newcomers to public schools shortly after they enter the country. The schools are expected to furnish information about the available educational resources of the community. Only the names of immigrants over the age of eighteen who are admitted for permanent residence are furnished to the schools. The service believes that a large number of those who will immediately benefit from the new plan are war brides, nearly 100,000 of whom are expected to

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enter the United States by July 1, as permanent residents.

In Print

Available only to libraries is a selected and annotated list of references on universal military training, published by the Library of Congress. The list, compiled by Frances Cheney, with a supplement compiled by Janice B. Harrington, cover historical background, foreign systems, army and navy proposals, legal, welfare, political, and economic aspects, and material for and against immediate legislation. Free from the Information and Publications Office, Library of Congress, Washington 25.

"Educational Services for Young Children" sets forth a program for four- and five-year-olds. Price 10 cents from the Educational Policies Commission, 1201 Sixteenth Street N. W., Washington 6.

The Columbia University Press publishes a report by Dean Carl W. Ackerman on the Chinese Post-Graduate School of Journalism, reviewing and evaluating a unique wartime educational project.

Industry

Facts on how labor unions are financed and governed are brought together by the education and research department of the Congress of Industrial Organizations, and published in that department's monthly review, *Economic Outlook*, for February. The study covers the 36 CIO affiliates. It shows that of these 36 affiliates, 31 provide for regular financial audits by a certified public accountant, 31 publish a complete financial report, 31 publish convention proceedings in full. All but one of the 36 unions hold conventions at stated intervals, with delegates elected by the members. The conventions, which are the supreme policy-making bodies of the labor organizations, are open to the public. In 33 unions, before a member can be expelled he has the right to appeal to the convention.

On the controversial issue of union finances, the study shows that the great majority of CIO members pay union dues of $1.50 a month or less. In most unions, the maximum initiation fee is $10. The conspicuous exceptions are the Marine Engineers Beneficial Association, $50; and Marine Cooks and Stewards, $32. In the latter case, however, the initiation fee helps cover burial benefit, shipwreck benefit, and hospital benefit. Two thirds of all CIO unions pay their top executives $6,000 a year or less. The range is from $3,600 to $20,000. The five unions paying the highest "top salary" are: Retail, Wholesale and Department Store Employes, $10,000; Textile Workers Union, $10,000; Amalgamated Clothing Workers, $15,000; Steelworkers, $20,000.

Workers' Education

A shift in emphasis in its whole program is described in the annual report of the American Labor Education Service, Inc., (437 West 59 Street, New York 19). The shift, which reflects the new position of labor in the community, is from "classes as such to educational work that is functional in character and grows out of the everyday activities of the labor movement." Mass education needs, LES reports, are increasingly in the foreground, as well as the needs of special groups, such as new members, or shop stewards. Among the problems in the workers' education field listed as requiring special study during the past year are: "new techniques for strengthening the position of minority groups in the labor movement and in the community, and the growing program of labor education under university auspices."

Several successful projects continuing the work of the Summer School for Office Workers through the year, and extending it to the local community are described in the annual report of the school. In Louisville, Ky., and Atlanta, Ga., weekly discussions were held, participated in by white collar workers from various union and nonunion organizations. In Richmond, Va., a weekend conference sponsored jointly by the Office Workers Summer School and the Southern School for Workers grew out of a discussion group which had been meeting for some weeks. Since the conference, the discussion group has become a permanent project.

White Collar Demands

General wage increases of at least $10 a week for white collar workers will be the chief goal of the United Office and Professional Workers of America, CIO, in collective bargaining negotiations for its 60,000 members. This was the policy voted at the annual convention in Cleveland last month. Other collective bargaining aims in the program adopted by the convention are: a $30 weekly minimum for a 35-hour week for any clerical job; minimum rates for key jobs in each industry; a $50 weekly minimum for all professional, technical, and specialized jobs; job classification systems based on evaluation of the special skills and qualifications of white collar workers with appropriate salary scales; weekly instead of monthly pay; guaranteed annual wage in seasonal industries such as direct mail advertising; equal pay for equal work, without discrimination against women.

Service Bureau

The need for a liaison agency between labor unions and community services is made clear in the latest report of the work of the American Federation of Labor Service Bureau, established a year ago by the New York Labor War Chest. The report of activities for the year ending February 1, 1946, shows that of the 650 AFL locals in the area, 106 referred approximately 500 inquiries to the bureau. The inquiries are classified as follows: 30 percent pertained to health, and included requests for help in connection with hospitalization, adjustment in hospital bills, clinic care, convalescent care, low cost X-rays; 24 percent pertained to employment, vocational guidance, unemployment insurance, and compensation cases; 15 percent pertained to family problems, including financial need; 7 percent pertained to the care of the aged, including questions regarding old age and survivors insurance; 7 percent pertained to legal matters; 17 percent pertained to miscellaneous problems, including recreation, citizenship, housing, and so on.

Wage Bill

A wage bill which would increase the present minimum wage of 40 cents an hour to 65 cents immediately, and to 75 cents by 1950, was sent to the floor last month by the Senate Committee on

Education and Labor. The bill also would extend the Fair Labor Standards Act to cover white collar workers in virtually all establishments except local small businesses, and agricultural processing workers on farms.

In general, the scope of the wage-hours law would be enlarged to that of the National Labor Relations Act, covering enterprises "engaged in commerce," those engaged in "the production of goods for commerce," and those engaged in "activities affecting commerce." Thus, larger department stores and chain food stores, mail order houses, service companies, and other enterprises which have four or more branches, or do a total annual business in excess of $500,000 would be included. So would "first processing" operators in canneries, cotton gins, dairies, and the like, in agricultural areas, but premium pay

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for overtime work at seasonal peaks would be suspended.

In Print

"The Truth About Unions," by Leo Huberman, is the second of Reynal and Hitchcock's Pamphlet Press publications. It brings together a mass of factual material, presented from a frank union point of view, and includes a directory of American labor unions "classified according to industry and affiliation." Price $1.00 from Survey Associates, Inc.

A summary of proceedings and the committee reports of the President's National Labor Management Conference, November 5-30, 1945, are available in pamphlet form without cost from the Division of Labor Standards, U. S. Department of Labor, Washington 25.

A resumé of the proceedings of the twelfth National Conference on Labor Legislation may be ordered from the Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington 25. Price 10 cents. The full proceedings will be available later in the year.

Health

In response to requests from local citizen groups all over the country, the National Health Council has organized a citizens' planning committee. Composed of twenty-five citizen leaders in many fields of public service, the committee will furnish leadership for a movement to coordinate the work of the 20,000 voluntary health agencies of the country.

The Gunn-Platt report, "Voluntary Health Agencies — An Interpretive Study" (see *Survey Midmonthly*, October, 1945), which revealed "considerable weakness and unevenness in the work of many health societies," has served to stimulate this move to remedy duplication of services and neglect of "crying health needs."

Reorganization Bill

A revised bill for reorganization of the New Jersey State Department of Health has been introduced by the speaker of the house. The bill calls for specific medical and public health experience qualifications for the office of state commissioner of health and stipulates that the seven-member advisory council shall be chosen "with regard to their knowledge of and interest in public health."

Health Conference

Under the auspices of the National Board of the YWCA, a health conference was held at Atlantic City preceding the YWCA national convention March 2-8. Surgeon General Thomas Parran, Michael M. Davis, and Louis I. Dublin spoke on goals for national health, legislation for adequate medical care, and community planning. Four reports on community health projects of local YWCA's were given. Delegates from Pensacola, Fla., described the organization of a committee for VD control sponsored by the local USO - YWCA unit.

Formerly functioning on special wartime problems, it has now developed into a permanent community committee which will continue an educational program. Four hundred delegates to the convention attended the special conference and participated in the discussion of federal and state health legislation now pending. Program for the conference was planned by the YWCA's national committee for health education.

Being Surveyed

At the request of the Chicago Medical Society, the Institute of Medicine of Chicago, and the health division of the Chicago Council of Social Agencies, a study of all health facilities of the city is being made by the U. S. Public Health Service, under the direction of Brigadier General James Thompson. It is expected that the survey will be completed in from eight months to a year.

Blue Cross Labor Division

The Blue Cross Hospital Plan Commission has established a labor division of the national enrollment office, according to an announcement by Frank Van Dyk, the director. The labor division was planned to meet the needs of an increasing number of unions now providing health services for their members,

Mr. Van Dyk said. Consultant for the new division is Martin Segal, who is experienced in working on health insurance programs under collective bargaining agreements.

First Annual Report

The Baruch Committee on Physical Medicine has announced that during its first year special funds were granted to eleven medical schools: Columbia University, New York University, Medical College of Virginia, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, University of Minnesota, University of Southern California, Harvard University, University of Iowa, University of Illinois, Washington and Marquette Universities.

Funds were used for creation of courses in occupational and physical therapy, research in fever therapy and electric shock therapy, study of hydrology and hydrotheraphy, and many other research and study projects.

Community Affairs

Eleven education workshops for community development have been held in Virginia during the past two years. Citizens met in study groups to analyze community problems and to seek solutions that they as citizens might attempt.

These study groups were an outgrowth of a summer workshop conducted in 1943 for rural high school principals by the extension division of the University of Virginia to demonstrate that principals employed on a twelve-month basis could be of great service to their communities. Because several principals, after finishing the course, suggested that faculty members conduct similar workshops in their home counties as a nucleus to rally others to community improvement, the university decided on this two-year program.

Activities of recently formed groups include organizing a county-wide coordinating council, working to secure an X-ray clinic, improving recreation facilities, and meeting other community needs.

The aims, experiments and demonstrations of these study-action workshops are described in more detail in "Taking Stock of a Community," in the January issue of *New Dominion Series*, publication of the extension division of the University of Virginia, Charlottesville.

Legal Aid Clinic

Over 120 towns in North Carolina are providing free legal aid service to needy families, according to Margaret Briggs, executive secretary of the Family Service Bureau at High Point, N. C., writing in the February issue of *Where We Live*, bulletin of the United War Fund of North Carolina. These clinics demonstrate "the effective use of local resources through cooperative community action." John S. Bradway of the Law School of Duke University has directed the Durham Legal Aid Clinic and assisted scores of towns in setting up this service.

The set-up at High Point is illustrative: In 1943, the Family Service Bureau, concerned about the problem of making legal advice available to its clients as well as to social workers without imposing on the time of legal friends, sought the help of Mr. Bradway. The bureau also enlisted the aid of the local bar association. At a meeting of the community's public and pri-

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vate agencies and volunteer lawyers from the association, a plan was worked out to set up a clinic for the use of all agencies except the health department and the Juvenile Court, which obtain legal advice from the prosecuting attorney. The American Red Cross, the department of welfare, and the bureau serve as intake, and two volunteer lawyers, assigned to each, help with legal problems.

Los Angeles

Organization for community planning on an urban or regional basis is discussed, with specific suggestions for the Los Angeles area, in two pamphlets published by the Haynes Foundation.

"Citizen Support for Los Angeles Development," by Charles W. Eliot, examines the experience of Los Angeles and six other large communities in the organization of unofficial or private support for official agencies.

"Coordinated Public Works for Metropolitan Los Angeles," by George W. Bemis, concludes that "a new administrative agency to coordinate the execution of major programs of public construction within metropolitan areas is essential."

These pamphlets may be obtained for ten cents each from the foundation, 2324 South Figueroa Street, Los Angeles 7, Calif.

In Print

Questions ranging from "Why communities fail in meeting their responsibilities" to "Why should a woman bother to participate in government and politics?" are discussed in a series of pamphlets recently published by the Woman's Foundation. They were prepared by six consultant committees appointed by the foundation last year to study the problems of the American home and the American woman. Titles in the series are: Doorways to Religion in Family Living; Improved Family Living through Improved Housing; The Place of the Family in American Life; Women's Opportunities and Responsibilities in Citizenship; Gainfully Employed Women and the Home; The Road to Community Reorganization.

Copies are free from the Woman's Foundation, Inc., 10 East 40 Street, New York 16.

Crime and Delinquency

Classification of convicted offenders in New York State prior to their being sentenced to a particular institution is one of the twenty-three recommendations recently submitted by the New York Prison Association to the 1946 state legislature.

Prisoners would be committed directly to the State Department of Correction following conviction, according to the association's plan, and would be sent after study by the department, to the institution best fitting the needs of each individual. The association recommends legislation prohibiting the courts from committing prisoners to specific institutions.

In pointing out that there is a mixture of types of offenders in the state's prisons today, the association says that "there are still those who are being sent to the prisons by the courts, who on the basis of careful examination and study would be sent to the reformatory." Under a well-rounded program of classification, it anticipates a future when the various prisons will each be dealing with different types of offenders. The plan calls for setting up a division of classification within the department.

FBI Retraining Sessions

The Department of Justice announced on February 26 that the FBI is making plans for the first retraining session of the FBI National Academy graduates since 1941. According to J. Edgar Hoover, FBI director, current juvenile delinquency problems will be highlighted in the advanced study which will be given at Washington, D. C., from September 30 to October 4, 1946. Invitations will be extended to approximately 1,100 law enforcement officers, all graduates of the academy, throughout the United States and in several foreign countries.

Detention Homes

"We have only two detention homes in our state and both of them are very badly managed" was a typical statement from state welfare departments which participated in the National Probation Association's current study of detention homes, according to Sherwood Norman. A field consultant of the association, Mr. Norman gives a progress report on the study in the December issue of *Probation*.

Fifty-seven detention homes in twenty-two states have been visited in the survey. Findings included, according to Mr. Norman: dependent and neglected children crowding detention homes, with the older, more difficult delinquents kept in jails; children held in detention homes for months for lack of placement facilities; inadequately paid, unskilled staff; and a general recognition of poor conditions as well as a desire to improve them.

The first step in community planning for better detention facilities, according to Mr. Norman, should be a careful study of existing community resources. Improved intake screening by the courts, more rapid investigation by probation officers, as well as expanded placement facilities, can reduce the need for a detention home.

In planning for the child in detention, Mr. Norman states that carefully selected, skilled supervisors are more important than the building itself. He also stresses the importance of a balanced program of activities for therapy and diagnosis, and a casework approach to each child.

Juvenile Delinquency Program

For the consideration of the Joint Interim Committee on Juvenile Delinquency created by the 1945 Wisconsin legislature, the Wisconsin Welfare Council presented, in the December issue of *Wisconsin Welfare*, an eleven point program for combating juvenile delinquency.

The recommendations of the council include: a state youth commission consisting of the heads of the state departments of public instruction, public welfare, and the board of health; a state recreation commission including the executives of all state departments concerned with recreation; community or county child guidance clinics for every area in the state; public school courses on marriage and family life.

Under the auspices of the committee, public hearings were held throughout the state enabling citizens to present their ideas on dealing with juvenile delinquency.

In Print

"Stop Pushin,' " is Bulletin I from the New York State Youth Commission, which was created last year by the state legislature to implement the findings of the Governor's Interdepartmental Committee on Delinquency and Parole.

The commission states that it "recognizes that the focus of its program should be in the localities, under local auspices and administration," and in this bulletin explains, in question and answer form, how localities may obtain state money and other assistance in setting up youth bureaus and other projects designed to prevent delinquency.

Published by the New York State Youth Commission, 24 James Street, Albany, N. Y.

"Long Term Institutional Care of Juvenile Delinquents," a report of a

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study by the Welfare Council of New York City, has as its major recommendation the establishment of a children's reception center, under the State Department of Social Welfare, to study the needs of juvenile delinquents before court commitment. Write the council, 44 East 23 Street, New York 10.

Social Insurance

The recommendations of the Social Security Board for expanding and strengthening the present insurance-assistance system were presented to the House Ways and Means Committee last month by Arthur J. Altmeyer, chairman of the board. These recommendations, which were set forth in the tenth annual report of the board, differ at many points from the recommendations of the subcommittee of the Ways and Means Committee (see page 84).

The board's over-all proposal is for "A comprehensive basic national system of social insurance, covering all major risks to economic independence and all workers and their dependents to whom such risks apply." This would be integrated with "A comprehensive program of public assistance, on a state-federal basis, under which payments financed from state and federal funds would be available to any needy person in the United States irrespective of the reason for need or the place of residence."

The insurance program would include "insurance against wage loss in periods of disability and against costs of medical care."

Specific recommendations for strengthening old age and survivors insurance include: extension of coverage to agricultural and domestic workers, public employes, employes of nonprofit organizations, the self-employed, among them farmers; credit to servicemen for their period in the armed forces; increase in benefit amounts, particularly for low-paid workers; increase from $3,000 to $3,600 a year in the amount of earnings subject to contribution and counted in computing benefits; adoption of a long range plan for financing old age and survivors insurance, looking toward an eventual three-way division of costs among employers, employes, and the federal government.

In its annual report, the Social Security Board points to "present serious weaknesses" in the federal-state system of unemployment insurance: narrow coverage, inadequate benefits, "unduly severe" disqualification provisions, complexities and inequities due to the basis of financing, and the variety of the fifty-one state laws. The SSB here restates its conviction that "the most satisfactory solution of the difficulties experienced in the first decade of the program would be incorporation of unemployment compensation in a single comprehensive national system of social insurance.

If the present federal-state system is continued the board recommends: "Abolition of the credit-offset features of the present tax and substitution of a straight federal tax from the proceeds of which matching federal grants to the states would be made for both benefits and administration." The board also sets up minimum benefit standards which, it holds, should be established "either as a condition of tax-offset credits . . . or of federal matching of state administrative and benefit costs."

The Social Security Board's report is published as Section V of the Annual Report of the Federal Security Agency. Price 25 cents from the Superintendent of Documents, Washington 25.

For Farmers

A proposed solution for the thorny administrative problem of setting up an old age insurance system for farmers and farm workers is set forth in "A Retirement System for Farmers," by Murray R. Benedict, a publication of the National Planning Association. (Price 25 cents from the association, 800 Twenty-first Street, N. W., Washington 6.)

Under this plan, farmers in the low income group (gross cash income of $200 to $750 a year) would be brought into the social security system as self-employed workers on an assumed net income of $400 a year. This would require at present rates, a contribution of $8 a year. Contributions would not be collected from farmers whose cash sales amount to less than $200 a year. Contributions from the higher income group would be based on the gross cash income of the farm, with a standard deduction for expenses, but with an option to report and deduct actual expenses if they were higher.

For farm wage-workers, the plan proposes the use of a stamp book, or a payroll reporting scheme substantially like the procedure now used in nonfarm employment.

In March Survey Graphic

Everybody's Stake in Price Control
Oscar E. Naumann

Strikes—and Public Policy
William M. Leiserson

Shifts on the Atomic Front
James T. Shotwell

France Shakes Herself
Malcolm W. Davis

The Real Issues in Social Security
John J. Corson

For sharecroppers, it is recommended that contributions be made jointly by the cropper, as employe, and the landowner, as employer.

In Print

"Social Security for Seafarers," published by the International Labor Office, includes a "model scheme" for the organization of national systems of social insurance for seafarers, and summaries of the experience of several maritime countries with such programs. 264 pp. Price $1.50 from the ILO, 3480 University Street, Montreal 2, Canada.

Social Hygiene

An aroused, informed public opinion to prevent a breakdown in the machinery of venereal disease control; and particularly to prevent any relaxation of law enforcement efforts to curb commercialized prostitution, was the focus of National Social Hygiene Day on February 6.

At the combined regional conference and annual meeting of the American Social Hygiene Association held in New York City on that date, "Beyond Victory" was the theme. Dr. Warren F. Draper, Deputy Surgeon General, U. S. Public Health Service, speaking on "War Time Lessons in Venereal Disease Control," said: "What about penicillin as the virtually certain cure of gonorrhea? What about the development of rapid methods of treating syphilis? Their success simply reemphasizes the old basis principle that the spread of venereal disease can be prevented if the infectious cases are found and treated. The greatest weakness in our entire V. D. control system today is the slowness, the incompleteness, and the inadequacy of case-finding."

Lieutenant Colonel Margaret D. Craighill, M. C., at the same session said: "Social Hygiene must have as its aim the guidance of a strong emotion into constructive channels through enlightened education and by reevaluation of our responsibilities rather than by utilizing the old motivations of fear and prejudice."

Canada

The opening of the season's anti-venereal disease campaign was Canada's observance of National Social Hygiene Day as reported by the *Social Hygiene Voice*, a publication of the Health League of Canada. Other features of their campaign are VD films, postal cancellation stamps, "Stamp out VD," in both English and French; and a national poll by the Canadian Institute of Public

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Opinion to determine the extent to which the public favors compulsory blood testing before marriage and during pregnancy.

Industry

A partnership of labor, management, and the city department of public health is revealed by a report in the January issue of the *Journal of VD Information* entitled "San Francisco Industrial VD Education and Case Finding Program," by Richard A. Koch, Lawrence Arnstein, and Arthur C. Painter. Local serologic surveys and educational programs were conducted both in labor union halls and within industrial plants.

The main AFL councils passed resolutions requesting member locals to blood test all new members, and during this demonstration 2,584 premembership serologic tests were given.

In addition to this, management was urged to discontinue the policy of discharging those employes known to have syphilis, and to accept the health department as the agency to determine in what capacity such persons should be employed.

In Print

"Challenge to Community Action" is one of the latest pamphlets issued by the Social Protection Division of the Office of Community War Services, Federal Security Agency, Washington 25. Principles and standards of a sound social protection program are outlined for those who will support and participate in such community action. Control and prevention of prostitution, promiscuity, and VD are seen only as a result of an aggressive four-way community program recognizing the interdependence of health, education, law enforcement, and social treatment.

Concerning Children

Coming to a head in Congress are three major measures, ultimate action on which will affect the future course of the federal government's program in the interests of child welfare. Taken with the recent meeting of the National Commission on Children in Wartime, now reorganized by the U. S. Children's Bureau as the National Commission on Children and Youth, they represent an effort not only to salvage wartime programs but to establish firmly an expanded federal peace time service.

Broadest in scope is the measure generally referred to as the Maternal and Child Welfare Act, introduced in the Senate by Senator Claude Pepper. This would appropriate $100,000,000, to be administered by the U. S. Children's Bureau, to bring "health and welfare services within the reach of every mother, child and youth up to the age of twenty-one in the United States." It would provide (1) for hospitals and health centers, for physicians' fees to be paid on a salary, per capita or per case basis, and for other phases of a rounded maternal and child health program; (2) for child welfare services including casework, foster homes, and day care services. Administration and financing would be on the grant-in-aid plan, with states and localities assuming varying proportions of the cost.

The second program involves federal subsidy for day care and nursing school centers, which were financed through Lanham act appropriations during the war. By the terms of the act these wartime appropriations ceased on March 1st. However, both the U. S. Children's Bureau and a private group organized as the National Committee on Group Care of Children, are continuing efforts to maintain this program not only at the federal level but by independent state and local action.

The third program, embodied in the Russell-Ellender bill, would provide federal funds for school lunches. Originally passed by the House with an appropriation of $50,000,000, the amount was increased by the Senate on February 26 to $115,000,000. Also to be administered on a grant-in-aid basis, federal aid would match state funds on a dollar for dollar basis during the years 1947-50.

USSR for Children

Soviet Russia's program for children in areas recently freed from German occupation, has been summarized and released by the U. S. Children's Bureau under the title "Health and Welfare Services for Mothers and Children in the Union of the Soviet Socialist Republics." Based on the law of July 8, 1941, the program includes additional child health and child care centers, increased institutional facilities, provision of food and clothing, and the general extension of health and welfare services. Supporting the program are plans for enforcing protective legislation, training personnel, and securing the broad participation of citizen groups.

Five Year Plan

As a result of study by its executive board and membership during 1945, the Child Welfare League of America recently announced a "five year plan" to expand its present services and facilities. During the period, it would aim to treble the number of accredited agency members, double the number of associate agencies affiliated with it, develop large groups of individual constituents, and double the number of agency subscribers to league publications.

With this enlarged backlog of financial support, the league would expand its field service, provide more adequate consultation, engage in surveys of local community facilities for child care, undertake a popular interpretation of unmet needs, and establish standards for agency administration and programs.

Division of Labor

Division of labor between the schools and social agencies is suggested in a recent joint statement prepared by the U. S. Children's Bureau and the federal Office of Education. School authorities should be responsible not only for educational functions but such activities as nursery schools and kindergartens, school-age centers, educational programs for parents, and school luncheons. Social agencies should administer day care programs, day nursery service, counseling service, foster family day care, and homemaker service.

Crisis in New York

Announcing that "no staff can stand up under the constant hysteria of having four to six unplaced children on its hands every night," New York City's new welfare commissioner, Edward E. Rhatigan, last month brought into the limelight a critical situation in the city's child care program. The basic difficulty is an acute shortage of institutional and foster home facilities, particularly for Negro children. Well babies are being placed in hospital wards because there are no other facilities open for them. The city itself administers no direct care program for the children in its custody, but pays for their care by private Jewish, Catholic, and Protestant agencies. As a solution, a committee of the Welfare Council has recommended that unless the voluntary agencies "can assure the community of an adequate program for all children needing foster care, new facilities should be provided by the city department of welfare."

In Print

"Child Service Centers," an illustrated pamphlet, is a report of striking work done during the war by the Kaiser Company and the Oregon Shipbuilding Corporation. Other details about the company's center program are also available upon request from Manager, Child Service Department, Kaiser Company,

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Inc., Portland Yard, and Oregon Shipbuilding Corporation, P. O. Box 4259, Portland, Ore.

"The Role of the Baby in the Placement Process" is a symposium of papers dealing with the integration of agency service in placement, the process involved in temporary foster home placement, and the process involved in placement in an adoption home. Price 85 cents from the Pennsylvania School of Social Work, 2410 Pine Street, Philadelphia 3.

"Services for Unmarried Mothers and Their Children" gives data about resources which can be used in state and local community planning. U. S. Children's Bureau, Washington 25; 10 cents.

Professional

Plans are being made by regular committees of the National Conference of Social Work for the 75th anniversary meeting of the conference in 1948, according to the January *Conference Bulletin*. Arrangements are being completed for the preparation and publication of an historical volume emphasizing the changing trends, methods, organization, and philosophy of social work in the United States during the last three quarters of a century.

Of more immediate interest to social workers are the plans for the 73rd annual meeting of the conference, to be held in Buffalo, N. Y., May 19 to 26. The program committee, assisted by the many suggestions from communities all over the country (see *Survey Midmonthly*, January 1946, page 25), has set up twelve program sections: social casework, child care, delinquency, the aged, social group work, community organization and planning, public welfare, health, mental health, industrial and economic problems, methods of social action, and administration.

A series of five special meetings on topics of broad current interest have also been planned. The veteran, transiency of discharged servicemen and displaced war workers, the alcoholic, medical care in the United States, and social problems of the prisoner are the announced subjects for these sessions, all of which will be held during the mornings.

Conference headquarters will be at the Memorial Auditorium which, says the *Bulletin*, is within easy walking distance of downtown hotels. As of February 15, reservations for convention purposes at the Statler, the Lafayette, and the Buffalo hotels were closed, but rooms were available at a half dozen others. Reservations may be made by applying to A. J. Morgan, chairman, NCSW Housing Bureau, 602 Genesee Building, Buffalo, N. Y.

Progress Report

A study of the proposal for a national examining unit for social work is one assignment covered in the civil service subcommittee's progress report to the National Board of the American Association of Social Workers. Outlined in detail in the January issue of *The Compass*, the report recommends that such a unit be under the auspices of the professional association, and combine a research program with the offering of examinations for selected groups such as civil service jurisdiction and merit systems, in selected job areas.

Separate from the AASW committee on registration and licensing of social workers, this civil service committee plans to continue work in three directions: discussion with agency and professional school representatives as to the nature and scope of such an examining unit project; publication of material on technical methods of testing and on experience in other professional and occupational fields; study of developments in regard to aptitude and personality tests.

Alumni Institute

The Pennsylvania School of Social Work has announced that, instead of the usual summer institute program, an "Alumni Institute" will be held from June 10 to 15 at the school in Philadelphia. Purpose of the institute is to offer a reorientation program for those alumni who have been engaged in war services, as well as "those who have been having interesting adventures in civilian agencies during the war years." Dean Kenneth. L. M. Pray, in announcing the plans, said that it would be an opportunity for these practitioners to exchange experiences and discuss their meaning in relation to present and future developments in social work.

Tenth Anniversary

Upon the occasion of completing its first ten years of service, the Curriculum in Social Work of the University of Michigan, has published a list of the 105 students graduated in that time, together with the titles of the master theses written by the students.

Enrollment Report

"Report on Students in Schools of Social Work, November 1, 1945 and during the Academic Year 1944-45" is now available from the American Association of Schools of Social Work. Trends in the development of the forty-six schools and detailed statistical information concerning certain aspects of the school's programs are given in 31 tables.

Enrolled in schools of social work on November 1, 1945, were 7,972 students, the highest peak to date. The report also shows a significant change in the distribution of students. The number enrolled as specializing in social work (not including those in extension courses) in the professional curriculum has increased from 4,715 to 5,011. This increase has been almost entirely in the full time students, as is shown by the change in figures there from 2,416 in 1944 to 2,791 in November 1945. Price 50 cents from AASSW, 1313 East 60 Street, Chicago 37, Ill.

Research Study Awards

Two awards of $400 each for "significant research studies" on "Professional Problems of Women," this year will again be granted by Pi Lambda Theta, National Association for Women in Education. An unpublished study may be submitted on any aspect of the professional problems and contributions of women, in education or in some other field. Studies may be submitted "by any individual, whether or not engaged at present in educational work" and are to be received by the organization's committee on awards by July 1, 1946. Copies of the announcement may be secured from Bess Goodykoontz, chairman, Committee on Studies and Awards, U. S. Office of Education, Washington 25.

Reconversion Note

The Postwar Information Exchange recently announced its change of name to Program Information Exchange. The *Postwar Information Bulletin* becomes the *Program Information Bulletin*. Greatly expanded activities are planned by the organization. The program information and consultation service, a recently developed feature, helps discussion leaders in local communities to find sources of materials for programs on national and international problems. The exchange is located at 41 Maiden Lane, New York 7, N. Y.

New Member Agencies

The Family Welfare Association of America has announced new membership in the association of three agencies: The Jewish Social Service Bureau of Chicago, Ill., The Family Society of Des Moines, Ia., and The Family Service Bureau of Oakland, Calif.

In Print

Definition of Terms and Instructions for Reporting Monthly Statistics of Family Casework, 1946 Edition, published by the Russell Sage Foundation, New York; price 20 cents. From the

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foundation, 130 E. 22 St., New York 10. The editors also state that some changes have been made in this edition "to increase the comparability of the statistics currently reported by different agencies."

People and Things

Late in February, Charles E. Hendry assumed the over-all responsibility and title of director of the Commission on Community Interrelations of the American Jewish Congress. Formerly coordinator of research for the commission, Mr. Hendry is also research associate at the Research Center for Group Dynamics at Massachusetts Institute of Technology and director of the Wellesley School of Community Affairs. At the same time, Stuart W. Cook became the commission's director of research. A captain in the psychological research section of the air forces during the war, Mr. Cook helped to devise and study the testing program for the selection and classification of air crew members.

The Federation of Protestant Welfare Agencies on December 1 appointed W. Noel Hudson its executive vice-president. Mr. Hudson previously served with the USO as director of operations for the twenty-two states west of the Mississippi River.

As of March 1, Harry P. Wareham became executive vice-president of the American Society for the Hard of Hearing. Mr. Wareham, who served as executive vice-president of the National War Fund during its first year of operation in 1943, is vice-president of Community Chests and Councils, Inc., and a member of the board of the National Health and Welfare Retirement Fund of New York City.

Charles H. Miller has been named director of the division of institutional and protective services of the North Carolina State Board of Public Welfare. In his new position, which was created by the 1945 general assembly, Mr. Miller will work with juvenile courts and all persons concerned with the juvenile delinquency program.

UNRRA has appointed Harold E. Snyder director of training in the division of personnel and training, to succeed Dr. Frank Munk. Dr. Munk, noted Czech economist, will become chief economic adviser of UNRRA's mission to Czechoslovakia. Mr. Snyder, who has been associated with UNRRA since 1944, was formerly chief of training, Civilian War Services, OCD.

Alvin E. Rose is Chicago's new commissioner of welfare, succeeding George J. Klupar, who has retired to accept an executive position with the Catholic Archdiocese of Chicago. Mr. Rose was previously executive secretary of the Illinois Council on Unemployment and Relief, which made a survey of relief administration throughout the country.

Douglas P. Falconer, executive director of the United Seaman's Service since 1942, has been appointed deputy chief of the UNRRA mission in China in charge of relief services.

Dr. C. A. Selby, the state director of health in Nebraska since 1942, has resigned to enter the federal public health field. Dr. Selby had previously served for twenty years as district surgeon for the Union Pacific. He is a former president of the Nebraska State Medical Association.

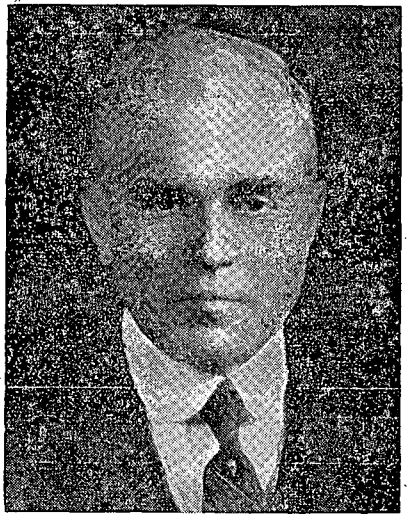
Dr. W. S. Petty, director of the divisions of local health services and communicable disease control, was named to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of Dr. Selby.

Robert E. Bondy has resigned as administrator of the American Red Cross services to the armed forces, to become director of the National Social Welfare Assembly in New York. Mr. Bondy, who was also administrator of ARC services to veterans, has served with the Red Cross for nearly twenty-five years. Don C. Smith, former deputy administrator, will succeed Mr. Bondy.

At the request of the World's YMCA and YWCA, early this year Clara A. Kaiser undertook a special assignment in the American zone in Germany. Miss Kaiser is working with displaced persons, under the auspices of the National Board of the YWCA. Carried on in cooperation with UNRRA, the project is designed to develop educational and recreational programs for displaced persons there.

CCC Staff

Eight new staff appointments have been made by Community Chests and Councils, Inc., in the first months of 1946: Dorothy B. de la Pole, formerly with UNRRA in Europe, volunteer services; Michael F. McCaffrey, formerly director of the Peoria (Ill.) Community Fund and Council, campaign and finance; George A. De Vine, formerly with the New York National War Fund, business manager; Terence J. Reilly, formerly statistician for the National Catholic Community Service, statistics and research; and in public relations, James D. Gamble, formerly of the Detroit Community Fund, Mrs. Mary Dabney, formerly of the Philadelphia War Chest, Basil Beyea, former editor of *Channels* and recently discharged from the army, and T. Spencer Meyer, former radio specialist for the Richmond Community Fund.



1867-SHERMAN C. KINGSLEY-1946

The death of Sherman Kingsley on February 26 at his home in Narberth, Pa., cannot but wake up a host of memories of social work's virile pioneer days. With Jane Addams, Owen Lovejoy, Florence Kelley, and many others, he played an outstanding role in the development of infant welfare, juvenile court reform, improved working conditions.

Mr. Kingsley was president of the National Conference of Social Work in 1917, and while executive of the Cleveland Welfare Federation during the years immediately following, he became a pioneer in the community organization movement.

Graduate of Knox College in 1892, with postgraduate work at Harvard, he chose social work as his profession and followed it with integrity and devotion. But people who knew him will remember him best as a very human, friendly man.

FRED S. HALL, retired member of the staff of Russell Sage Foundation, and co-author of studies on marriage, died on January 31, at Winter Park, Fla., at the age of seventy-five.

A teacher in early life, Mr. Hall entered social work in 1902 as secretary of the New York Child Labor Committee. He joined the staff of the Russell Sage Foundation in 1911 as associate director of the charity organization department, working with Mary E. Richmond, director of the department, in promoting and developing the family welfare movement. Later he and Miss Richmond collaborated on a study of marriage laws, the result of their work being the publication by the foundation of "American Marriage Laws," "Child Marriages" and "Marriage and the State."

He also initiated the foundation's Social Work Year Book, now published biennially. The first three editions were prepared under his direction.

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BOOK REVIEWS

THE ART OF PLAIN TALK, by Rudolf Flesch. Harper. $2.50.

THIS BOOK IS FOR THOSE WHO WRITE to be understood, without ambition to impress others with their learning. The author believes readers deserve much more than they often get from writers in the way of real effort to make information and ideas easy to understand. But do not expect "The Art of Plain Talk" to be just another plea for simple, clear, accurate, brief, and vivid writing. You are not urged to resolve to write better. You learn how—mainly through a number of tested formulas.

These are "difficulty scores," based on tests of readers' ability to understand. They have a range of seven grades from "very easy" to "very difficult" with "standard" in the middle. Applied to sentence length, for example, we find that a very easy to understand sentence has eight words or less; a standard sentence seventeen words, and a very difficult one twenty-nine.

Besides sentence length, there is the use of "filler words." These slow down too rapid movement of ideas to a pace the reader can keep up with. Again (social workers please note, you have to talk about people.

"But there is no doubt about one thing: human interest makes for easier reading. Scientific tests have shown that people are better at reading about other people than about anything else."

There is a formula for using human interest to make yourself well understood. The proportion of personal references per one hundred words ranges from very easy nineteen or more, fairly easy ten, fairly difficult four, to very difficult two or less. Six personal references per one hundred words, the ratio in "The Art of Plain Talk," is standard.

You can take the chapter on punctuation straight—no tables, no tests, just common sense. The chapter title, "The Glamour of Punctuation," goes too far according to my thinking, but the writer does make punctuation interesting.

I find myself skirting any mention here of affixes. Mr. Flesch goes to town on them. If you are as ignorant as I was, the affix is to prefixes and suffixes what sibling is to brothers and sisters. According to the table, a paragraph containing twenty-two affixes or less is very easy to understand, one with fifty-four or more very difficult. "I hope you won't be terrified when you see there is some figuring to be done," says Mr. Flesch in handing you his yardstick, but "here is how you figure a difficulty score: First, take the average length of the sentences and multiply it by .1338 (you can look this up on page 202). Then, take the number of affixes per 100 words and multiply it by .0645 (for this you use page 203). Add these two figures . . ."

You can go all around the affixes, as I did, if you, too, balk at all the arithmetic, or indeed at merely spotting affixes. Or you can go through with it. There are still plenty of easy-for-the-writer-to-use techniques in other parts of the book.

Mr. Flesch himself follows his formulas and writes easily, delightfully, and with humor. His examples, too, are proof that plain talk makes good reading as well as good understanding.

MARY SWAIN ROUTZAHN
Russell Sage Foundation

GOVERNMENT IN PUBLIC HEALTH, by Harry S. Mustard, M.D., LL.D. The Commonwealth Fund. $1.50.

IF NOT USED AS A BASIC TEXT, THIS book at least should be added to the list of required reading for all students of public health. For those already engaged in public health work, it is an interesting and readable volume devoted to the development of public health services in local, state, and federal governments.

The author aptly presents the complex picture of public health organization as it exists today in the three "areas of government," and discusses the range of activities which now make up a comprehensive public health program. However, the most distinguishing quality of his book is the treatment given changing concepts, attitudes, and legislative action which have influenced public health organization and program content over more than a century, and which promise to mold the services of years to come. Throughout the discussion, situations are analyzed in a clear and objective manner as products of a continuously changing social order. Inclusion of copies of original historical documents having a bearing on the subject is a particularly interesting feature.

The increased participation of state and federal governments in health matters that at one time were exclusively local responsibilities and the tendency toward more federal assistance are especially emphasized. As a matter of fact, the federal position possibly has been overdeveloped in its treatment. For nearly 150 years, the attitude of the federal government concerning matters of health was one of supreme indifference, except with respect to introduction of diseases from abroad. It is rather problematical, therefore, as to whether the interest which has developed during the past decade will be of a permanent or temporary nature. While it may be argued that the states, too, were slow in assuming responsibility for improvement of the public health, it must be acknowledged that they were not nearly so late in entering the field as was the federal government.

Dr. Mustard points out the necessity of extending basic health services to every community of the nation if such assistance is to be truly effective. (At present nearly one third of the counties in the United States still are without the leadership of a full time health officer and many localities under such direction have far from adequate staffs.) Indeed, he recommends that federal subsidy for health work be granted to a state only if that state will insure effective local health services in each of its local jurisdictions. Expansion of program for consideration of additional special health problems should be delayed, he believes, until a satisfactory framework is established for provision of minimum health services to all communities.

One might select other sections for special comment, but the preface, written by Dr. James Alexander Miller, so successfully sets forth the highlights of the book that further repetition here seems unnecessary. JOSEPH W. MOUNTIN
Medical Director
Chief, States Relations Division
U. S. Public Health Service

EMOTIONAL PROBLEMS OF LIVING: AVOIDING THE NEUROTIC PATTERN, by O. Spurgeon English, M.D., and Gerald H. J. Pearson, M. D. Norton. $5.

AT THIS TIME, WHEN, BECAUSE OF THE many psychiatric casualties of the war, the general public is forced to become interested and tolerant of psychiatric phenomena, this book by the well-known authors of "Common Neurosis of Children and Adults," should find a big audience. It is written for medical practitioners, medical students, clergymen, nurses, and social workers. Parents, too, can learn a great deal from this volume.

The tremendous amount of material explains to the reader the psychological development of the human being; its biological, emotional, and instinctual needs and drives. It explains what will happen to this human being if frustration stops the healthy growth of these ele-

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Coming in the April Survey Midmonthly

SOMETHING OLD—SOMETHING NEW

A Special Group of Articles on "Modern Old Age"

ACCORDING to statistics, 25% of our population is already over 45 years of age. The same figures indicate that by 1980, instead of the present number of 6,634,000 persons over 65 years of age in the United States, we may expect 22,051,000. This rapidly increasing number of "over-65ers" will necessitate a shift in social services, program emphasis, and allocation of community funds.

Anticipating the growing importance of care for the aged, the April *Survey Midmonthly* will feature a series of four articles on this subject:—

★ *"You Cannot Demobilize All People"* by George Lawton, Director and Consulting Psychologist of the Old Age Counseling Center, New York. One of Mr. Lawton's main points deals with the employability of older people, a matter of vital concern to the basic economy of the entire country if we are to avoid becoming a nation of oldsters supported by an ever decreasing percentage of our youth.

★ *"Life Begins at Forty Plus"* by Kathleen Gorrie of Gorden Community House, Vancouver, B. C.—an entertaining description of recreation activities for old persons.

★ *"Old Age Has Its Troubles"* by Margaret W. Wagner, Executive Secretary of the Benjamin Rose Institute, Cleveland, Ohio. Miss Wagner's article deals with the experience of the Institute in counseling and casework to help old persons.

★ *"The Community and the Chronically Ill"* by Allan Stone, Research Director, Wilder Charity, St. Paul, Minnesota. This article, focuses on community organization for the care of the aged who are chronically ill.

Other articles: Re-organization of New York State Public Welfare Program; also The Relationship Between the Community and the Veteran Hospital.

★ ★ ★

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mentary manifestations. The book tries to explain to laymen, in non-psychiatric language, the Freudian concepts of personality development. The authors' understanding and tolerance should help masses of people to sense the fuller possibilities of living — the knowledge that frustrations, inhibitions, withholding of love, of joy, and truth are the real enemies of mankind.

Nearly half of the book is given over to a thorough description of the development of the child. The authors show the very beginning of instinctual and emotional needs and what happens to a child when these remain unfulfilled. Unless this is understood no one can evaluate what is wrong with an adult, since mental ill health in adults has its roots in the frustrations of childhood. The characteristics of the oral, anal, phallic, latent and adolescent periods are followed to adulthood. The authors also deal with the problems of advancing years.

We are grateful for the excellent chapter on delinquency and the understanding interpretation of unusual sexual behavior.

So sympathetic is the presentation, that if this volume were offered as a textbook, it would probably cause little anxiety in the students using it. MELLY SIMON
Chief of Psychiatric Social Service
Payne and Whitney Clinic

WHEN YOU MARRY, by Evelyn Millis Duvall and Reuben Hill. Association Press. $3.

THIS BOOK IS AN ATTRACTIVELY PRESENTED manual of information for married couples and young people contemplating marriage. It is vividly and clearly written and the point of view is at the same time sympathetic and objective.

The information given ranges from practical advice on budgeting and wise buying to an analysis of the psychological factors that influence marriage. When the writers deal with the latter, their premises seem generally valid but at times oversimplified. This is perhaps justifiable in view of the purpose of the book as a manual of information for young lay people.

The social worker is likely to be already familiar with the factual material, but will be interested in the method of presentation. The book might be made available to certain clients of social agencies where information as such would be of benefit to them. It cannot, however, replace a skilled casework approach to the more serious marital problems.

The social worker naturally regrets the meagerness of information about the many services of the casework organizations that are available to unhappy or perplexed married couples. ELEANOR CLIFTON
District Secretary
Community Service Society of New York

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School of Social Service Administration

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CHILD WELFARE WORKERS for Miami and Jacksonville offices of The Children's Home Society of Florida. Openings for Case Workers and Field Representatives. Salary range $2,400. to $3,200, and all travel expenses including milage at 7½¢. College education, graduate study at school of social work, and experience in children's work required. Apply to 403 Consoliated Bldg., Jacksonville 2, Florida.

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GROUP WORKER in agency dealing with different nationalities. Some training and experience desired. Salary $2,000. Address International Institute, 1500 San Diego Street, Fresno, California.

WORKERS AND SECRETARY-STENOGRAPHER (Women) needed for SOCIAL SERVICE AND RECORD DEPARTMENTS of FRONTIER NURSING SERVICE in the Kentucky Mountains. Write Director, Wendover, Leslie County, Ky.

WANTED: Case Work Supervisor in Home Service Department of American Red Cross in large city in metropolitan area. Within 30 minutes of New York City. Large employed staff. Case work training and some supervisory experience in accredited agency essential. Application to be made in writing giving educational and professional background. 8330 Survey.

CASE WORKERS: A—With two years graduate training plus experience in Psychiatric and/or Children's and/or Family fields. Interested in practice but prepared to supervise junior workers and/or students, salary range $3,000 to $3,800. B—Graduating from two year graduate training June, 1946, with field experience in Psychiatric, Children's or Family case work, eager to develop skills through selective case loads, consultation with Professional School and Psychiatrist. Salary range $2,700 to $3,300. Cars provided. Apply: Family Welfare Association, City Hall, Spokane 8, Washington.

YOUNG MAN WANTED. A large statewide nonsectarian child-placing agency of specialized program and high standards has opening for a young man skilled in Community organization, public relations, and fund raising. Professional training is a requisite, and some experience in child welfare or related field such as Community Councils or Chests is desirable. Salary range from $3,600.00, depending upon qualifications and experience. Request responses by letter only, stating age, training, experience, and giving salary range in which you place yourself at this time. Letters from recently discharged, or about-to-be-discharged service men especially solicited. All letters labeled confidential will be so treated. F. D. Preston, Children's Home Society of Va. P. O. Box 554, Richmond 4, Va.

WANTED—Trained case workers and working supervisor. Agency is expanding its family and child welfare services. Good supervision and adequate salary based on training and experience. Transportation paid to San Francisco. Write Catholic Social Service, 995 Market Street, San Francisco 3.

WORKERS WANTED

SUPERVISOR, trained and experienced, to have charge of district office of Jewish family case work agency in large eastern city. Responsibilities include supervision of workers and students, administration of unit and committee work. Good salary and personnel practices. 8322 Survey

CASE WORKERS. Two, professionally qualified, by Jewish Family and Children's Agency offering good supervision and special interest assignments. Classifications Case Worker I and Case Worker II provide excellent salary range. 8210 Survey.

SUPERVISOR, professionally trained and experienced, to have charge of a family service department in multiple service Jewish case work agency. Responsibilities include supervision of workers and students, administration of unit and community committee work. Salary range $2700 to $3800. 8215 Survey.

SUPERVISOR—Mid-west private agency specializing in child care and placing on state wide basis, has opportunity for capable casework supervisor. We want a person who has not already "arrived"—one who is growing and wants the opportunity to grow with an expanding organization. Excellent reputation, soundly financed. Prefer Protestant woman between 35 and 45, with some experience in supervisory position and membership in AASW. Give full information concerning self together with picture and salary expected. 8318 Survey.

VACANCIES on Children's Aid Society Staff: supervisors, caseworkers, day nursery worker. Adequate salary commensurate with professional training and experience. Opportunity for continued training in School of Social Work. 4 weeks vacation, sick leave. City of 250,000. 8 hours—one night from New York City. 8319 Survey.

CASE WORK POSITIONS—Full and part time. Personnel Policy sent upon request. Interviews arranged at Buffalo National Conference of Social Work or as desired. Write, Personnel Department, Travelers Aid Society of Chicago, 608 South Dearborn Street, Chicago, Illinois.

ADOPTION AGENCY wants professionally trained case worker for study department, child placing experience desirable; ability either latent or developed, to relate as a case worker to young babies and to use knowledge about infant development discriminatingly. Also case worker for home finders and adoption placement department. Salary $1800 to $2400. Write Miss Julia Ann Bishop, Director of Case Work, Children's Home Society of Virginia, Box 554, Richmond, Virginia.

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WOMAN, Protestant, single, degree from accredited School of Social Work, supervisory and administrative experience in public and private agencies, Child Welfare field, desires position on West Coast. 8324 Survey

EXPERIENCED MAN, Jewish, desires a responsible position, New York or vicinity, where a good background in psychiatric case work, community organization, research and public relations is an asset. Interested in research, coordination and administration. 8332 Survey

SOCIAL WORKER with Public Welfare, Group Work and Psychiatric experience wants position as Case Work Supervisor in area between San Francisco and Los Angeles in growing agency. Master's degree Eastern School. Interested in Community Organization as well as In-Service Training program. 8328 Survey.

CAMP DIRECTOR desires position as Director of Institutional, Boys Club, Private or Caddy Camp for the coming season. 8331 Survey.

TO TRADE: what have you to offer a male, 35, MSW degree, member AAPSW, experience in work with adults, youth community organization, public relations, who wishes position as agency executive? 8333 Survey

INSTITUTION DIRECTOR, male, 36, Protestant, Master's Degree in Social Work, experience in family and Children's work including child-placing, desires position with institution for dependent children, preferably in Pennsylvania. 8338 Survey.

SOCIAL WORKER (male), M.S.S.W. (except thesis), 3 years case work experience including psychiatric theory and practice. Position desired in agency maintaining high professional standards with opportunity for some administrative duties. 8336 Survey.

EXECUTIVE, Negro, Ph.D. candidate. Major fields, guidance, sociology. Administrative experience in community and recreation centers. Available immediately. 8339 Survey.

MAN, 35, with extensive Red Cross experience in administration, community service, fund raising. Experienced social worker and parole officer. Desires position with agency or institution. Locate anywhere. 8313.

Directory of Social Organizations (cont.)

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NATIONAL TUBERCULOSIS ASSOCIATION—1790 Broadway, at 58th St., New York, Dr. Kendall Emerson, managing director. Pamphlets of methods and programs for the prevention of tuberculosis. Publications sold and distributed through state associations in every state. American Review of Tuberculosis, medical journal, $8.00 a year; and Monthly Bulletin, house organ, free.

PLANNED PARENTHOOD FEDERATION OF AMERICA, INC. (formerly Birth Control Federation of America)—A clearing house cooperating with social workers in referring mothers to medically directed birth control clinics in 42 states, including 20 centers in Greater New York. In areas lacking centers, qualified physicians are available. Phone or write: 501 Madison Avenue, New York City. WIckersham 2-8600. Honorary Chairman, Margaret Sanger. President, The Rev. Cornelius P. Trowbridge; Associate Medical Director, Eva F. Dodge, M.D.

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